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USAAMRDL TECHNICAL REPORT 71-58

CH-47A, B AND C SERIES HELICOPTER ROTOR BLADE FAILURE AND SCRAP RATE DATA ANALYSIS

By

R. L. Hunt

November 1971

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13. ABSTRACT This report provides the results of an analysis of failure data derived from depot inspection, overhaul/rework, and scrappage reports on 5,488 rotor blades of the CH-47 series tandem rotor helicopters. Two types of rotor blades were analyzed for blade mean-time-between-removals, mean-time-to-removals, mean-time-between-unscheduled-removals and mean-time-between-scrappage. Locations on these blades for the major discrepancies were determined. Blade teardown experience was determined. A cost comparison of blade acquisition costs versus the average cost of repair/rework was provided.		

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U. S. ARMY AIR MOBILITY RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT LABORATORY
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The Eustis Directorate of the U.S. Army Air Mobility Research and Development Laboratory is conducting a series of design studies and hardware evaluations leading to improved reliability and maintainability (R&M) characteristics for future helicopter rotor blades. It is intended that design requirements will be tailored to each aircraft type (utility, attack, transport, etc.) with full consideration of operational environment impacts (combat damage, foreign object damage, etc.) included.

This contract was awarded to analyze the operational R&M history of CH-47A, B, and C model helicopter rotor blades to establish design considerations for transport type aircraft. The findings presented herein are considered to be most accurate and directly usable in establishing expected rotor blade external damage rates for the type of helicopter in question. Results of this analysis will be used for evaluation of advanced rotor blade design concepts currently being investigated under this Directorate's R&M research and development program. This report is published as a parallel to the USAAVLABS Technical Report 71-9, "UH-1 and AH-1 Helicopter Main Rotor Blade Failure and Scrap Rate Data Analysis", which presented data for consideration in the design of utility and attack helicopter rotor blades.

The technical monitor for this contract was Major Vincent G. Ripoll, Reliability and Maintainability Division, Eustis Directorate.

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Contract DAAJ02-71-C-0014
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November 1971

CH-47A, B AND C SERIES HELICOPTER
ROTOR BLADE FAILURE AND SCRAP RATE
DATA ANALYSIS

Final Report

D210-10340-1

Prepared By
The Boeing Company, Vertol Division
Philadelphia, Penna.

for

EUSTIS DIRECTORATE
U.S. ARMY AIR MOBILITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT LABORATORY
FORT EUSTIS, VIRGINIA

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SUMMARY

This report has the purpose of providing the results of an analysis of failure data derived from depot inspection, overhaul/rework, and scrappage of 5,488 rotor blades of the CH-47 series tandem rotor helicopters. These blades were returned after RVN and CONUS operations over a time period from July 1, 1962 through March 1, 1971, with an accumulation of 2,521,734 actual blade operating hours with an equivalent accumulation of 5,679,399 operating hours for all blades in the helicopter fleet.

Analyses of unscheduled removals, repair, overhaul, and scrap data were conducted on two different types of blades. Compilation of total quantity of blades investigated has been provided, as well as accumulated time on all blades at removal.

Analyses to determine the blade design parameters as mean-time-between-removals (MTBR), mean-time-to-removals (MTTR) and mean-time-between-unscheduled-removals (MTBUR) have been included. Results may be compared for changes in these parameters in preceding from the early to the later model. Changes in these parameters can be attributed to incorporation of engineering changes, evolution of improved manufacturing, shipping, handling and modified maintenance practices.

Analyses to determine reasons for removals, repairs and scrappage as a percentage of total blades removed and of total blades scrapped have been compiled. Reported reasons for removal are consistent with reasons for repair and for scrappage. Blades subjected at the manufacturer's repair facility to close detailed inspection, disassembly, or repair for minor damage sometimes indicated serious defects as extensive water migration, exterior spar corrosion and similarly hidden damages. Additional reasons for scrappage were, therefore, discovered. A very minor quantity of blades may be scrapped due to in-transit depot handling and processing damages. Analysis results for the mean-time-between-scrappage (MTBS) for both CH-47A and B/C blades have been included.

Conclusions of this analysis indicate that the later CH-47B/C blades have been designed to decrease the amount of inherent discrepancies. However, they are more susceptible to externally caused discrepancies than the CH-47A helicopter blades. It is recommended that field repair and blade handling procedures be reviewed for modifications in line with the results of this report.

FOREWORD

This report provides an analysis of rotor blade failure and scrap rate historical data as reported on the tandem rotor helicopters, CH-47A, CH-47B and CH-47C. This analysis was conducted under Contract DAAJ02-71-C-0014 (Task 1F162205A11901) for the Eustis Directorate, U. S. Army Air Mobility Research and Development Laboratory (USAAMRDL), Fort Eustis, Virginia.

USAAMRDL technical direction was provided by Major Vincent G. Ripoll.

The principal analyst for The Boeing Company, Vertol Division, was Mr. R. L. Hunt, assisted by Mr. E. C. Daley and Mr. J. J. Chmura, all of M&R Engineering. Program management and technical direction were provided by Mr. H. J. Smith, Sr., Product Support Engineer, Mr. R. E. Spears, Sr., Product Support Engineer, Mr. R. Hazlett, Manager Product Assurance R&D, and Mr. P. W. Fiedler, Unit Chief Reliability and Maintainability.

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INTRODUCTION

Helicopter rotor blade failure and scrap rate information as reported during depot rework is an important source of blade data. This data may be used analytically to determine removal rates and mean removal values, to determine blade scrappage rates and mean scrappage values and enable correlation of these rates and values with the various reasons for blade removal from the helicopter and for subsequent repair or scrappage.

The above data was available, as The Boeing Company, Vertol Division has been repairing and updating CH-47 helicopter rotor blades under a U. S. Army contract since the incorporation of this helicopter into the Army inventory in 1962.

During the time from 1962 through 1970, the Vertol Division has been the sole contractor for depot rework of CH-47 helicopter rotor blades. From all data generated from the rework facility and from field activities, a data system was developed to record utilization, discrepancies, failure modes, configuration control, and reason for blade removal/scrappage. This data has been maintained in a usable format to enable blade analyses to be readily accomplished at any time.

This data has been continually extracted, reviewed and verified by Boeing Company/Vertol Division personnel who possessed specialized backgrounds in the fields of reliability, maintainability, service engineering, design, military/aviation, data analysis and military/civilian overhaul/repair facilities. It is from the above data source that this CH-47A, B and C series helicopter rotor blade failure data and scrap rate data analysis has been compiled.

SCOPE

The objective of this effort was to conduct an analysis of available CH-47A, B and C series helicopter rotor blade failure and scrap rate data to determine unscheduled and scheduled removal rates, to develop mean-time-between-removal values, to determine blade scrappage rates, and to correlate these rates and values with the various reasons for removal and scrappage.

This data was derived entirely from depot level repair and scrappage reports on two types of rotor blades used on three different helicopter models as shown by Table I below.

TABLE I. ANALYZED ROTOR BLADES IDENTIFICATION		
APPLICABLE HELICOPTER	HELICOPTER SERIAL NUMBERS	APPLICABLE ROTOR BLADES PART NUMBERS
CH-47A	59-4982 & Subsequent	P/N 114R1002
CH-47B	66-19098 & Subsequent	P/N 114R1502
CH-47C	67-18494 & Subsequent	P/N 114R1502

The CH-47A type of rotor blade with a steel spar, fiberglass skins, and aluminum ribs is constructed as a symmetrical airfoil. The CH-47B/C type of rotor blade, with a steel spar, fiberglass skins, honeycomb fillers and plastic end ribs is constructed as a nonsymmetrical airfoil. Due to these major design differences, the analytical effort, therefore, treated these two types of blades independently. A detailed discussion of blade differences and how these were treated in the analyses is given under analysis approach, page 3.

ANALYSIS APPROACH

This section describes the preliminary steps taken prior to accomplishment of the analytical efforts concerned with blade removals and blade scrappage.

The two types of blade configurations, i.e., CH-47A symmetrical type and the CH-47B/C nonsymmetrical type, and their different installation locations, i.e., forward and aft rotors, have had a bearing upon the extent of data available for extraction; therefore, these blade configurations and installations are described in detail herein.

The organization of the data into a form suitable for extraction of material useful for the analyses contained in this report required the application of a specific data extraction process which is discussed below.

Certain data limitations exist for the data reporting time period investigated. One limitation concerns the fact that all blade repairs, overhaul, and scrappage have been accomplished at the depot level. Thus data reporting on blade repairs and scrappage occurred at this level for a total of 2,521,734 actual blade hours. During this same interval, if field level (organizational through general support maintenance levels) data had been available, a total of 5,679,399 blade operating hours could have been used as the analysis data base. A second limitation is the possible loss of data due to unusual incidents. A third limitation is the possible dilution of the blade population by excessive categorization. These limitations are discussed herein.

Identification of reasons for removal, repair, and scrappage required a simplified tabulation of the standard military coding to handle the quantity of data. This tabulation is discussed below. Recognition of the inspection criterion against which blades are removed or scrapped is discussed.

Calculation of blade means representative of blade operating experience requires definition of these means and development of appropriate equations. These steps are presented herein.

DESCRIPTION OF CH-47 HELICOPTER ROTOR SYSTEMS

CH-47A Rotor Systems

The CH-47A helicopter rotor system consists of two rotor installations: one at the forward end of the aircraft and one at the aft end, as shown in Figure 1. These installations are similar but not identical. Each installation includes three interchangeable blade assemblies and a rotor head assembly. The helicopter thus has a total of six blades. These blades are not interchangeable between the two locations. Blade rotation direction is counterclockwise for the forward rotor and clockwise for the aft rotor (in a plan view).

CH-47B/C Rotor Systems

The CH-47B/C rotor system is similar to that of the CH-47A. However, the blades used on these two types of aircraft are different and are not interchangeable between aircraft.

DESCRIPTION OF CH-47 HELICOPTER ROTOR BLADES

CH-47A Rotor Blades

The CH-47A rotor blade assembly as shown in Figure 2 is a symmetrical airfoil shape. It consists of a D-spar, an attaching socket, a nose cap assembly, a trailing-edge strip, twelve boxed fairings, tip balance provisions, and a faired tip cover. This blade assembly is symmetrically constructed about its horizontal centerlines without camber.

The blade D-spar is of steel tubing, circular at the root where it is threaded to receive the attaching socket fitting, for mounting to the rotor head assembly.

The blade leading edge is a formed stainless-steel nose cap with a balance weight assembly bonded into it. The leading-edge assembly is bonded to the forward edge of the D-spar.

Twelve boxed fairings, consisting of fiberglass skins bonded to airfoil-shaped aluminum ribs, are bonded to the aft side of the D-spar. The trailing edge is formed by bonding a blade-long laminated stainless-steel strip into a special slot in the aft edge of the boxed fairings. Movable balance

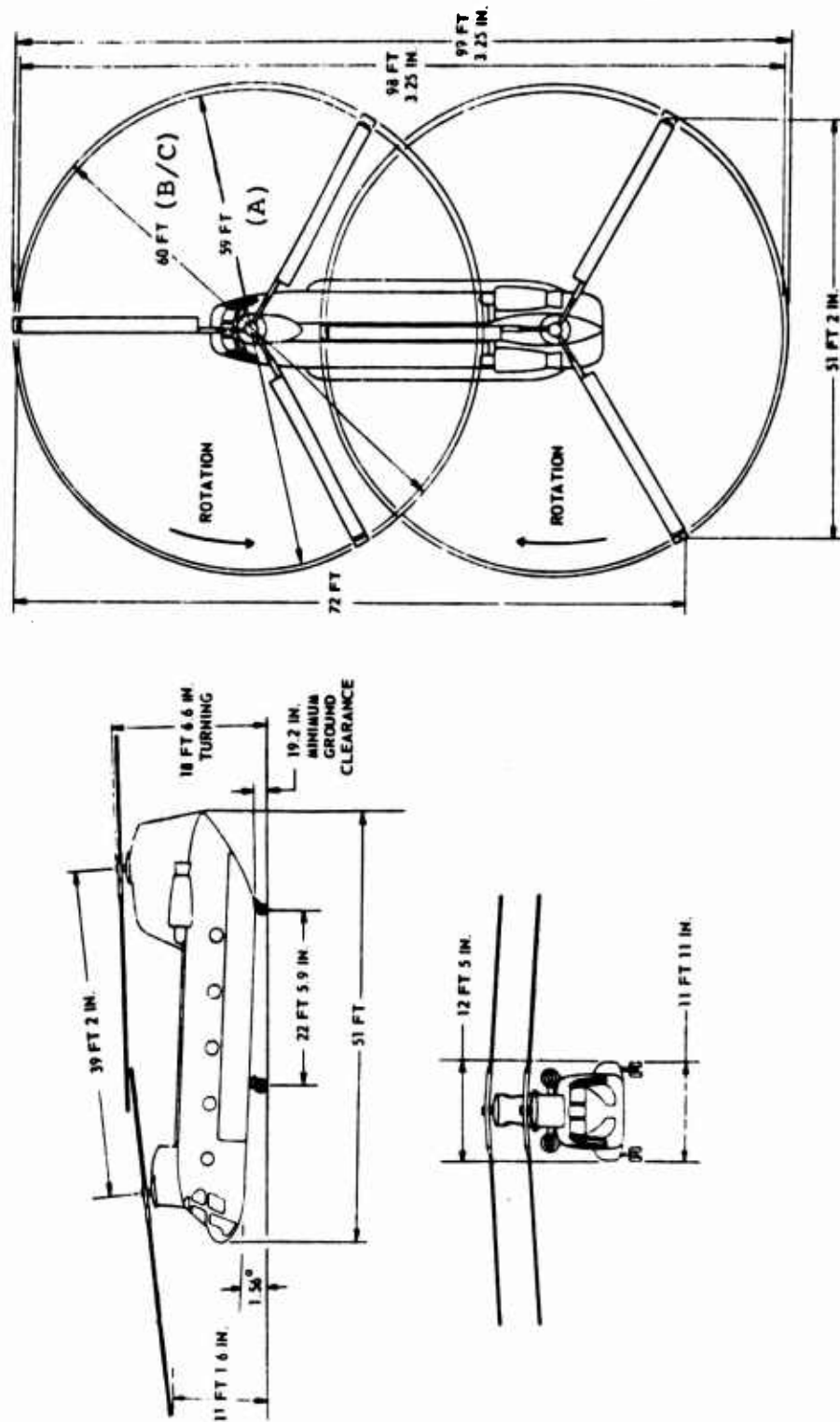


FIGURE 1. CH-47 HELICOPTER ROTOR SYSTEM.

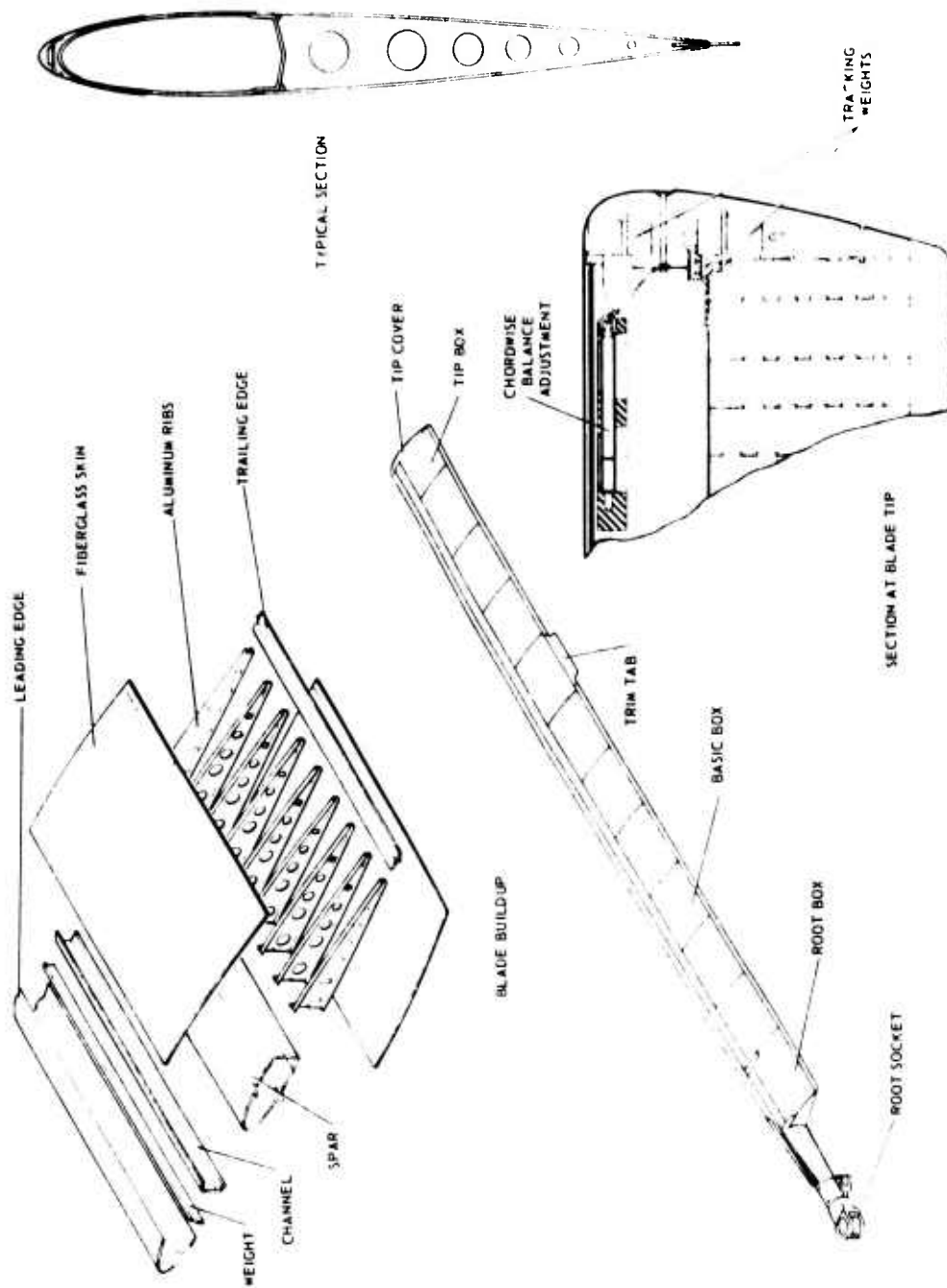


FIGURE 2. CH-47A ROTOR BLADE ASSEMBLY.

and tracking weights are installed on stainless-steel fittings riveted to the tip end of the D-spar. These weights are used to make balance and tracking corrections at the factory. A removable tip cover allows access to these weights. A blade tie-down fitting is located at the blade tip on the bottom surface.

CH-47B/C Rotor Blades

The CH-47B/C rotor blade assembly as shown in Figure 3 is a nonsymmetrical cambered airfoil. The blade assembly consists of a D-spar, an attaching socket, a nose cap assembly, nine boxed fairings, a trailing-edge strip, tip balance provisions and a simplified tip cover. Construction of this blade is similar to the CH-47A blades except for the boxed fairings and nose cap as shown in Figure 3.

DATA EXTRACTION PROCESS

A specific data extraction process was developed and applied to locate, extract, and describe CH-47 rotor blade discrepancies investigated for this report. This was done by the use of an alphanumeric coding system capable of identifying practically all important discrepancies occurring to any part of the entire structure of a CH-47 rotor blade. This alphanumeric system provided different codings for the CH-47A and CH-47B/C blades to allow for blade design differences.

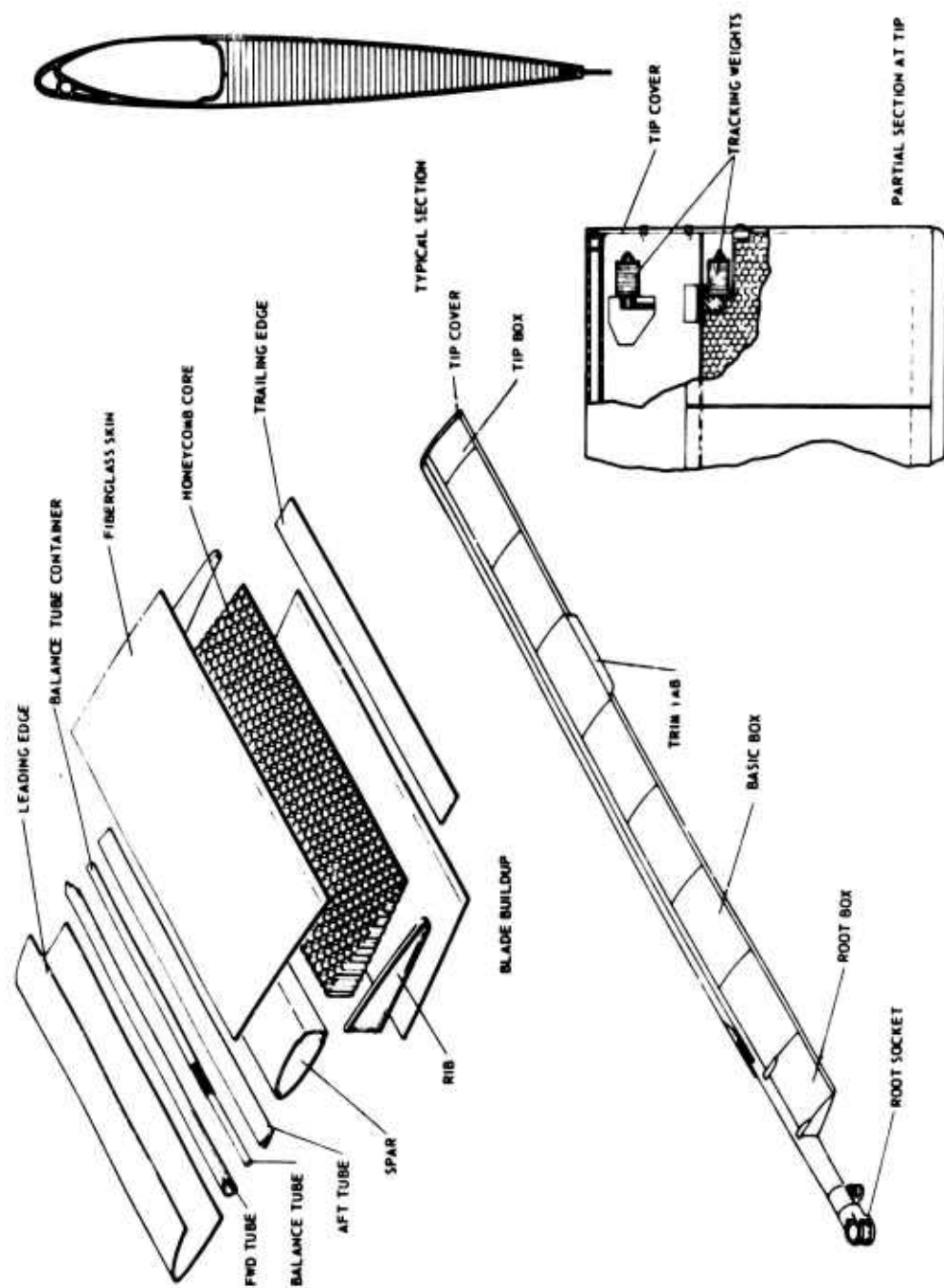


FIGURE 3. CH-47B/C ROTOR BLADE ASSEMBLY.

BLADE REMOVALS ANALYSIS APPROACH

Data Limitations and Use

The data included in this report were compiled from the existing Boeing-Vertol records which have been kept on rotor blades removed elsewhere and shipped to Boeing-Vertol for inspection, repair and scrappage.

The removal dates of interest to this blade removal study are shown in Table II. Note that the time period of interest varies among the CH-47A, B and C model helicopters.

The helicopter flight time accumulated up to the removal dates shown for the CH-47B and CH-47C models have been averaged to provide a consistent basis for the CH-47B/C analysis, as these have not been considered separately.

Loss of Data Due to Unusual Incidents

No data limitations were imposed due to blade damages incurred from unusual field experiences. It could have been decided that blade removal data derived from blade over-stress caused by in-air and massive nearby explosions, severe blade flapping due to extreme windstorms, or close helicopter over-flights should have been excluded. However, it was felt that the exclusion of these unusual experiences would provide a distorted view of the complete in-the-field experience; therefore, this data was included.

Examples of two unusual incidents which occurred in RVN and which subjected a large number of CH-47 helicopter blades to severe damage beyond their design limits were:

1. Typhoon Frieda, in November 1967
2. The Camp Evans ammunition dump explosion, in May 1968

Fifty CH-47 rotor blades were involved in the typhoon incident. Of these fifty blades, nine forward and nine aft blades were X-ray diffraction inspected at the depot and were accepted with return to service. Twelve forward and twelve aft blades were X-ray diffraction inspected at the depot, with subsequent rejection for scrappage. The remaining eight blades were severely damaged and were scrapped without further inspection.

TABLE II. BOEING-VERTOL REPAIR/OVERHAUL/SCRAPPAGE INSPECTION RECORDS - DATES AND HELICOPTER FLIGHT HOURS						
HELICOPTER	ROTOR LOCATION	BLADE PART NUMBER	REMOVAL DATES FOR BLADE INSPECTION	CORRESPONDING HELICOPTER ACCUMULATED FLIGHT HOURS FOR DATES SHOWN	EQUIVALENT BLADE FLIGHT HOURS	
CH-47A	Forward	114R1002	July 1, 1962 thru March 1, 1971	650,206	1,950,618	
	Aft	114R1002	July 1, 1962 thru March 1, 1971	650,206	1,950,618	
CH-47B	Forward	114R1502	June 1967 thru November 1, 1970	159,419	478,257	
	Aft	114R1502	June 1967 thru October 8, 1970	157,914	473,742	
CH-47C	Forward	114R1502	April 1968 thru November 1, 1970	138,694	416,082	
	Aft	114R1502	April 1968 thru October 8, 1970	136,694	410,082	
TOTALS:				1,873,133	5,679,399	
Data does not include aircraft flight time incurred in Germany, Korea and Alaska, but does include CONUS and RVN.						

The thirty-three CH-47A and sixty-one CH-47B rotor blades that were involved in the Camp Evans explosion were shipped to Boeing-Vertol for inspection and repair, as required.

Blade Population Sizing

During this study, 5,488 blades were reviewed for removal experience. To keep the analysis results at a reasonable level of confidence, this blade population has not been diluted by a large number of categories. It did provide for the separation of all data into forward and aft rotor blade data.

It was felt that the different operational characteristics between these two locations may produce different effects in the externally-caused or inherent discrepancies of these blades. Since blade construction is the same for blades used at both locations, then blade design is eliminated as a possible factor of any differences that resulted from this study.

Determination of Reasons for Removal

Reasons for blade removal, where blades are either repaired or scrapped, have been organized into three major groups based strictly on blade discrepancies. One group concerns inherent blade failures and discrepancies, the second concerns external causes of blade damage or failure, and the third concerns scheduled reasons for blade removal.

The first group essentially includes those discrepancies associated with inadequacy of blade design to withstand actual environmental conditions encountered during field operations. The second group concerns blade failure induced by external influences as foreign object damage, combat, and the like. Included in this group are those blade discrepancies caused by errors due to inadequate shop or field repairs, handling, shipping or maintenance. Also included in this group, for the purpose of records only, are those blades removed without adequate or valid removal reasons. The latter group includes those blades received at the depot and inspected with the result that no damages of the kind reported were found.

This study will be concerned with the unscheduled removal reasons as shown in Table III and the scheduled removal reasons as shown in Table IV.

The Boeing-Vertol repair evaluation reports investigated in the study followed the failure code given by TM-38-750, Reference (1).

It should be noted that where blade damage cause was unknown at the time of removal, this removal analysis included a close review of all recorded discrepancies for these blades to determine what discrepancy would have been the major reason for blade removal for repair.

Appendix II shows the detail and depth to which this removal analysis was conducted. In particular, Figures 29, 30 and 31, as well as the accompanying discussion within this appendix, are of interest.

TABLE III. ROTOR BLADE UNSCHEDULED REASONS FOR REMOVAL/SCRAPPAGE		
TYPE OF DISCREPANCY	REASON FOR REMOVAL/SCRAPPAGE	DESCRIPTORS
Inherent Caused Discrepancy	Deterioration	Missing Bare Steel Eroded Rippled Water Migration
	Unbond	Bulged Blistered Bond Void
	Excessive Vibration	Beyond Tolerance Vibration
	Eroded	Eroded & Other Worn
	Corrosion	Corroded & Other Peeling Chipped Stained Seized Water Migration Pitted
	Delamination	Voided Grazed Cracked Split
	Cracked	Creased Grazed Cracked & Other Split
	Fretted	Worn Fretted
	Imbalance	Tip Rod Loose Imbalance
External Caused Discrepancy	Foreign Object Damage (F.O.D.)	Dented Broken Torn Punctured Scored Bent
	Combat Damage	Broken Scored Dented Punctured Torn Spar/Socket Damage

TABLE III - Continued		
TYPE OF DISCREPANCY	REASONS FOR REMOVAL/SCRAPPAGE	DESCRIPTORS
	Overstress	Overstress & Other Bent Collapse Torn Minor Damage
	Crashes/Strikes	Bent Collapse Torn Minor Damage
Error Caused Discrepancy	Manufacturing/Shipping Maintenance/Repair Shop Error and/Inadequate Field Repair	Human Error
No Valid Removal	No Known or Valid Reason for Removal	No Known Removal Cause
Unknown/Misc.		Miscellaneous

TABLE IV. ROTOR BLADE SCHEDULED REASONS FOR REMOVAL/SCRAPPAGE		
TYPE OF DISCREPANCY	REASON FOR REMOVAL/SCRAPPAGE	DESCRIPTORS
Time Change	MWO Compliance	MWO
	No defect - Blade Removed for Scheduled Maintenance	Sched. Maint.
Other	Retired Blade	Retired
	EIR Engineering Evaluation	EIR
	No Defect - Blade Removed to Facilitate Maintenance of Other Component(s)	No Defect
	Unknown/Misc.	Miscellaneous

CH-47A, B and C Blade Inspection Requirements

The CH-47 helicopter blade inspection requirements are discussed below. These requirements are noted herein to establish the criterion against which blades have been removed and scrapped.

Field inspection for serviceable CH-47A blades follows the minimum requirements noted in TM 55-1520-209-20-1, Reference (2), and for serviceable CH-47 B/C blades follows the minimum requirements noted in TM 55-1520-227-20-1, Reference (3). When a blade does not satisfy these conditions, it must be repaired or replaced, as applicable. For those blades sent back for depot rework and repair at the manufacturer's facility, the requirements of TM 55-1520-209-35-2 for the CH-47A blades, Reference (4), and of TM 55-1520-227-35-3 for the CH-47B and CH-47C blades, Reference (5), are followed. Partial or full teardown of 20% to 30% of the blades sent to the depot will occur. These teardowns will assure a complete determination of the extent of blade damage or deterioration.

Blade Identification - Overhaul and Retirement Data

Blade identification by dash number, overhaul time (hours), and blade retirement time (hours) for CH-47A rotor blades are shown in Table V.

Blade identification by dash number, blade overhaul time, and blade retirement time in blade hours for CH-47 B/C rotor blades are shown in Table VI.

Data for Table V has been derived from TM 55-1520-209-20-1, Reference (6), and data for Table II from TM 55-1520-227-20-1, Reference (7).

TABLE V. CH-47A BLADE OVERHAUL AND
RETIREMENT HOURS DATA

COMPONENT	PART NUMBER	RETIREMENT INTERVAL (BLADE HRS.)
Forward Rotor Blades	114R1002-27	3600
Aft Rotor Blades	114R1002-28 thru -78	2400
	114R1002-80 thru -92	2400

TABLE VI. CH-47B/C BLADE OVERHAUL AND
RETIREMENT HOURS DATA

		OVERHAUL INTERVAL (BLADE HRS.)			RETIREMENT INTERVAL (BLADE HRS.)
COMPONENT	PART NUMBER	CH-47B	CH-47C T55-L-7C	CH-47C T55-L-11	
Forward Rotor Blades	114R1502-9	3600	3600	*	--
	114R1502-13	3600	3600	*	--
	114R1502-15	3600	3600	*	--
	114R1502-17	3600	3600	*	--
	114R1502-23	3600	3600	*	--
	114R1502-25	O/C	O/C	O/C	6000
	114R1502-27	3600	3600	*	--
	114R1502-29	3600	3600	*	--
	114R1502-31	3600	3600	*	--
	114R1502-33	O/C	O/C	O/C	6000
Aft Rotor Blades	114R1502-10	1500	1500	*	--
	114R1502-14	1500	1500	*	--
	114R1502-16	1500	1500	*	--
	114R1502-18	1500	1500	*	--
	114R1502-24	1500	1500	*	--
	114R1502-26	O/C	O/C	O/C	4000
	114R1502-28	1500	1500	*	--
	114R1502-30	1500	1500	*	--
	114R1502-32	1500	1500	*	--
	114R1502-34	O/C	O/C	O/C	4000

* - Not installed in helicopter noted

O/C - On condition removal, see References (2) and (6)

Reasons for Removal Versus Frequency by Blade Removal

It is of primary interest to determine the quantity of blades removed for various reasons. This determination will establish a firm basis for the subsequent calculation of blade means.

This determination took two forms: one, a tabulation of the discrepancies and quantities based upon the reasons for removal, and second, a graphical display of the same information for better understanding of the distributions found.

Calculation of Means

In this study, the calculation of certain means representative of blade operating experience includes the determination of mean-time-between-removals, mean-time-to-removals, and mean-time-between-unscheduled removals. Since nearly all of the same blade removal data is used to derive these various means and their derivations are similar, the derivation of only two of these will be discussed in detail. It should be noted here that blades removed for repair and scrappage are both included.

(1) Calculation of MTBR values.

The mean-time-between-removals (MTBR) for either the forward or aft rotor blades was calculated as three times the sum of all CH-47A or CH-47B/C helicopter operating flight hours accumulated over a selected time period divided by the total quantity of forward or aft blades removed for all causes over that time period of interest. Three times the sum of all helicopter flight hours is required as the CH-47 helicopter uses three-bladed rotors.

Thus, for the forward blades,

$$MTBR_F = \frac{N \sum_{j=1}^3 t_j}{n}$$

where N = Total quantity of helicopters involved

t_j = Flight hours per helicopter

n = Total quantity of forward blades removed

Calculation of the MTBR for the aft blades was accomplished similarly.

(2) Calculation of MTTR values

The mean-time-to-removal (MTTR) was calculated by obtaining each removed blade's operating time (in hours) accumulated up to blade removal and dividing by the quantity of forward or aft blades concerned.

Thus, for the forward blades,

$$MTTR_F = \frac{N \sum_{i=1} t_i}{n}$$

where n = Total quantity of forward rotor blades removed for reason

t_i = Total time in blade flight hours per blade at removal

Calculation of the MTTR for the aft blades was accomplished similarly.

(3) Calculation of MTBUR values

The calculation of mean-time-to-unscheduled removal (MTBUR) was accomplished similarly to the calculation for MTBR discussed above, except that blades removed for scheduled reasons were excluded from the sample of either forward or aft rotor blades.

(4) Calculation of Means Example

To explain the derivation used to obtain the values shown in the subsequent means tabulations in this report, the following example is provided.

Per Table XI, page 34, the mean-time-between-removals of the forward rotor blade ($MTBR_F$) for inherent discrepancies was derived as:

$$MTBR_F = \frac{3 (341 \times 1906 - 650,206.7)}{682} = 2,860 \text{ Hr}$$

where 3 is the quantity of rotor blades on the forward rotor, 341 is the quantity of helicopters involved in the operational area and time period being considered (refer to Table II, page 10), 1,906.7 is the average flight time in hours per helicopter, 650,206 is the resultant helicopter flight time accumulated, and 682 is the quantity of forward blades removed for inherent discrepancies.

Determination of Discrepancy Locations Versus Types of Discrepancies

This calculation was primarily concerned with the frequency of discrepancies or damages accumulated for particular blade samples and for various major areas and components of these blades. Both upper and lower surfaces of these blades were shown in the same chart. Forward and aft rotor blades were considered on separate charts. The discrepancy locations for blades that were scrapped for reasons found after removal have been discussed in the scrappage analysis section.

Results of this analysis were tabulated for the various areas as percentages of the total blade experience.

BLADE SCRAPPAGE ANALYSIS APPROACH

Data Limitation and Use

Data included in this portion of the report was derived from the same sources as that used for the blade removal study.

Primarily, the scrappage analyses differ from the removal analyses in that the reasons for scrappage are used as a basis for calculation.

The time period of interest is shown by Table II, page 10.

Determination of Reasons for Scrappage

Reasons for blade scrappage, in general, have the same scope as those for removal as listed in Tables III, page 13, and IV, page 14.

Calculation of Means

Only one set of estimated scrapped blade means is provided, since the scrapped blades are thoroughly investigated as a part of the removal analysis. This one set of means provided is that of mean-time-between-scrappage.

The calculation of the mean-time-between-scrappage (MTBS) applies only to those blades removed and eventually scrapped, whether the reason for scrappage was known beforehand or was determined after further blade inspection and/or blade tear-down.

The calculation was accomplished similar to that for the MTBR as noted above, except that only scrapped blades were included for forward and aft rotors.

ANALYSES

CH-47 BLADE REMOVALS ANALYSES

The analyses presented herein follow the approaches discussed in the preceding section of the report. These analyses are grouped in chronological order of blade development and deployment:

1. CH-47A Forward and Aft Blades
2. CH-47B/C Forward and Aft Blades

Each group provides the following analyses:

- a. Major percentage of blade removals
- b. Frequency of blade removal vs. removal reasons
- c. Mean-Time-Between-Removal
- d. Mean-Time-To-Removal
- e. Mean-Time-Between-Unscheduled-Removal

Comparisons of the results of these analyses for forward and aft blades and the means are provided.

Table VII provides a review of the number of all blades that have been investigated for removals, repairs and scrappage. The actual accumulated flight time at removal of these blades and the equivalent time on the aircraft is given for comparison.

Note that the number of scrapped blades reviewed are included here for comparison.

TABLE VII. NUMBER OF CH-47A AND CH-47B/C BLADES INVESTIGATED FOR REMOVALS, REPAIRS AND SCRAPPAGE										
BLADES		ALL BLADES		ACCUMULATED TIME ON DEFECTED BLADES		ACCUMULATED TIME ON SCRAPPED BLADES		ACCUMULATED TIME ON AIRCRAFT		
HELICOPTER	BLADE LOCATION	QTY.	TIME ON BLADES REMOVAL *	QTY.	TIME ON BLADES REMOVAL *	QTY.	TIME ON BLADES REMOVAL *	HELICOPTER FLIGHT TIME	EQUIVALENT BLADE FLIGHT TIME	
CH-47A	Forward	2,126	1,028,473	1,932	945,627	194	82,846	650,206	1,950,618	
	Aft	2,349	1,105,419	1,855	870,367	494	235,052	650,206	1,950,618	
CH-47B/C	Forward	512	202,775	457	186,292	55	22,483	298,113	894,339	
	Aft	501	185,967	436	159,758	71	25,309	294,608	883,824	
TOTALS	Forward	2,638	1,231,248	2,389	1,125,919	249	105,329	948,319	2,844,957	
	Aft	2,850	1,290,486	2,285	1,030,125	565	260,361	944,814	2,838,442	
	All blades	5,488	2,521,734	4,674	2,128,418	814	365,690	1,893,133	5,679,399	

* Time on blades at removal given in blade hours.

CH-47A Forward and Aft Blades Removal Analysis

The removal status of 4,475 blades was reviewed; 2,126 of these were forward blades and 2,349 were aft blades.

Table VIII summarizes the removal status for the most frequently occurring causes of removal for the forward blades. Table IX summarizes similar information for the aft blades.

Figures 4, 5 and 6 illustrate the quantity of forward blades removed for the reasons under study. Figures 7, 8 and 9 illustrate the quantity of aft blades removed for similar reasons. Note that scrapped blade quantities are identified. In these figures the reason for removal of a blade that is scrapped is used, not the reason for scrappage unless they coincide.

A summary of the percentages of CH-47A forward and aft blade removals versus reasons for removal is presented in Table X, page 32. For a comparison to percentages of CH-47B/C forward and aft blade removals, see Table XX on page 55.

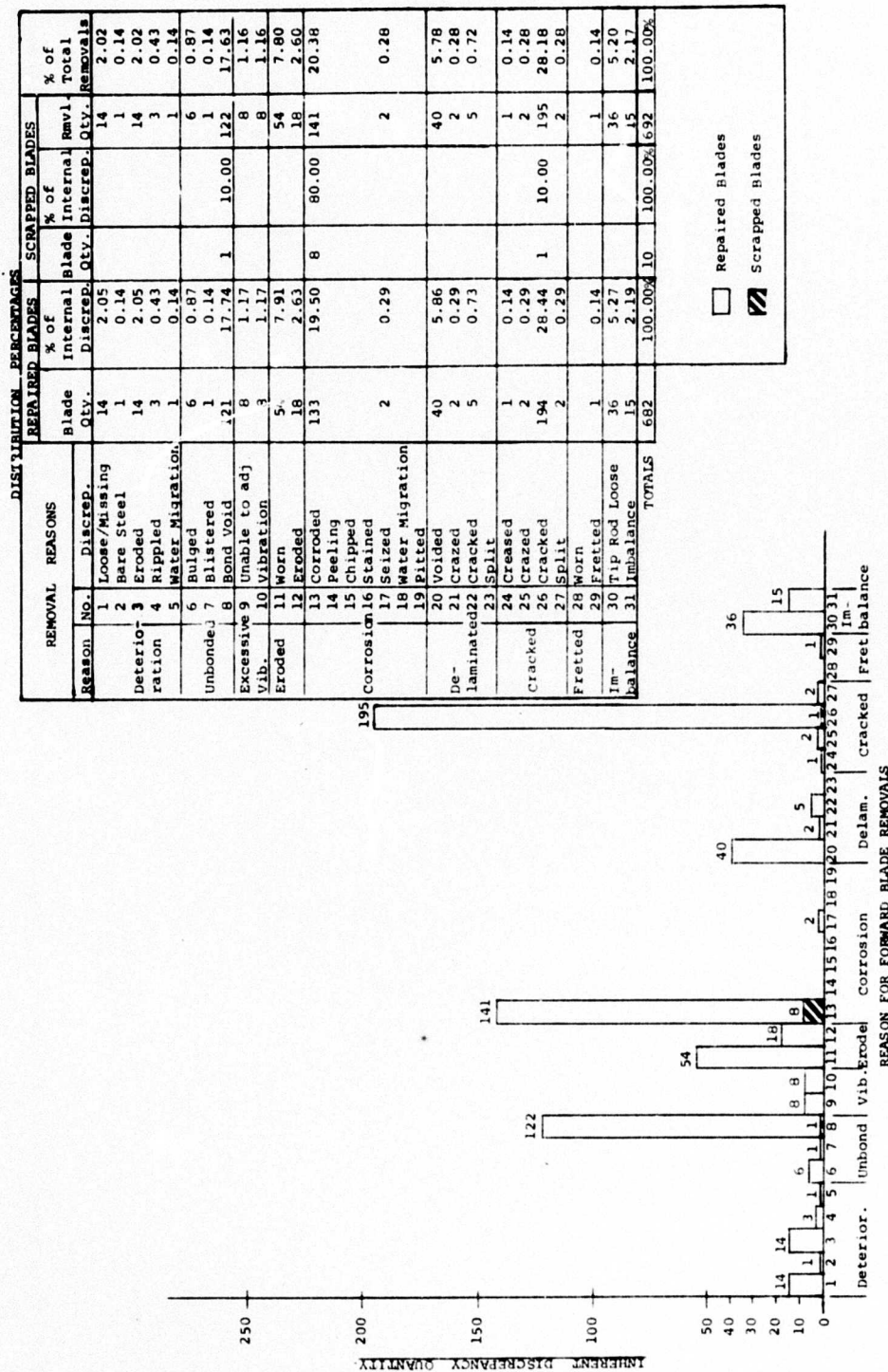
TABLE VIII. PERCENTAGES OF FORWARD BLADE REMOVALS - CH-47A

REPAIRED BLADES			SCRAPPED BLADES		
REMOVAL REASON	QTY.	% OF TOTAL REMOVALS	REMOVAL REASON	QTY.	% OF TOTAL REMOVALS
F.O.D. - Dented	330	15.52	F.O.D. - Dented	54	2.54
Sched. Removal (Sched. Maint.)	276	12.98	Overstressed	44	2.06
Cracked	194	9.13	Combat Damage - Punctured	26	1.23
Corrosion	133	6.26	Combat Damage - Dented	20	0.94
Unbonded (Voids)	121	5.69	Crashes/Strikes (Minor Damage)	10	0.47
F.O.D. - Punctures	119	5.60			
Combat Damage - Punctures	80	3.76			
Sched. Removal (Misc.)	70	3.29			
Overstressed	67	3.15			
Sched. Removal (Facilitate Maint.)	58	2.73			
Eroded	54	2.54			
F.O.D. - Scored	52	2.45			
Delaminated (Voided)	40	1.88			
F.O.D. - Bent	38	1.78			
Remainder	300	14.11	Remainder	40	1.88
TOTALS	1,932*	90.87%		194*	9.12%

* Total forward blade removals equals 1,932 + 194 = 2,126.

TABLE IX. PERCENTAGES OF AFT BLADE REMOVALS - CH-47A					
REPAIRED BLADES			SCRAPPED BLADES		
REMOVAL REASON	QTY.	% OF TOTAL REMOVALS	REMOVAL REASON	QTY.	% OF TOTAL REMOVALS
Sched. Removal (Maint.)	361	15.37	Overstressed	215	9.15
Cracked	338	14.39	F.O.D. - Dented	93	3.96
F.O.D. - Dented	250	10.64	Sched. Removal (Maint.)	38	1.62
Unbonded (Voids)	138	5.87	Combat Damage -	31	1.32
Corrosion	92	3.92	Punctures		
F.O.D. - Punctured	85	3.62	Sched. Removal	26	1.11
Combat Damage	67	2.85	(Retired Blades)		
Overstress	64	2.72	F.O.D. - Punctured	15	0.64
Sched. Removal (Misc.)	60	2.55	Combat Damage - Dented	15	0.64
F.O.D. - Scored	46	1.96			
Sched. Removal	30	1.28			
(MWO Compliance)					
F.O.D. - Torn	29	1.24			
No Valid Removal Reason	26	1.11			
F.O.D. - Bent	24	1.02			
Remainder	245	10.43	Remainder	61	2.59
TOTALS	1,855	78.97%		494	21.03%

* Total aft blade removals equals 1,855 + 494 = 2,349.



DISTRIBUTION PERCENTAGES									
REMOVAL REASON		REPAIRED BLADES		SCRAPPED BLADES		REMOVED		TOTAL	
Reason	No.	Blade Qty.	% of External Discrep.	Blade Qty.	% of External Discrep.	Blade Qty.	% of External Discrep.	Blade Qty.	% of External Discrep.
F.O.D.	1 Dented	310	40.64	54	30.16	364	38.75		
	2 Broken	14	1.72			14	1.41		
	3 Torn	35	4.31			35	3.53		
	4 Punctured	119	14.65	4	2.23	123	12.41		
	5 Scored	52	6.40	2	1.11	54	5.45		
	6 Bent	38	4.67			38	3.83		
Combat Damage	7 Broken	4	0.49			4	0.40		
	8 Scored	14	1.72	20	11.17	34	3.43		
	9 Dented	80	3.85	26	14.52	106	10.70		
Overstress	10 Punctured								
	11 Torn	1	0.12	1	0.55	2	0.20		
	12 Spar/Socket	67	8.25	44	24.58	111	11.20		
Crashes/Strikes	13 Overstress								
	14 Bent	1	0.12			1	0.10		
	15 Collapsed	1	0.12			1	0.10		
Error	16 Fractured	1	0.12			1	0.10		
	17 Dented								
	18 Bent								
Not Valid	19 Collapse	15	1.84	10	5.58	25	2.52		
	20 Torn	26	3.20	7	3.91	33	3.33		
	21 Minor Damage	15	1.84	1	0.55	16	1.51		
Misc.	22 Error	15	1.84	1	0.55	16	1.51		
	23 No Valid Rmvl.								
TOTALS		812	100.00%	179	100.00%	991	100.00%		

☐ Repaired Blades
☒ Scrapped Blades
 * Manufacturing/Shipping/Handling Error Including Inadequate Field Repair

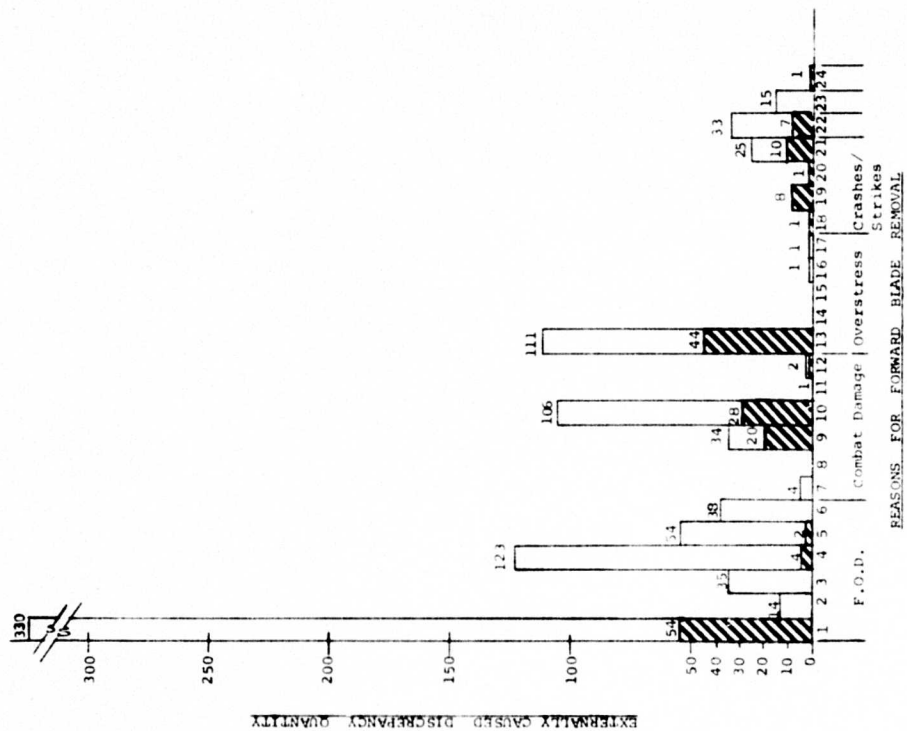


FIGURE 5. EXTERNAL DISCREPANCY REMOVALS - FORWARD BLADES - CH-47A.

DISTRIBUTION PERCENTAGES

REMOVAL REASON	REPAIRED BLADES		SCRAPPED BLADES		Removal Quantity	% of Total Removals
	Blade Qty.	% of Sched. Removals	Blade Qty.	% of Sched. Removals		
Person No.	Discrepancy					
1	MMO Compliance	32	7.24	--	32	7.22
2	No Defect (Sched. Maint.)	276	62.45	--	276	62.31
3	Retired Blades	--	0.90	4	4	0.90
4	EIR Engr. Evaluation	2	0.45	--	2	0.45
5	No Defect (to facilitate maint.)	58	13.12	--	58	13.09
6	Miscellaneous	70	15.84	1	71	16.03
TOTALS		4.38	100.00	5	443	100.00%

☐ Repaired Blades
☒ Scrapped Blades

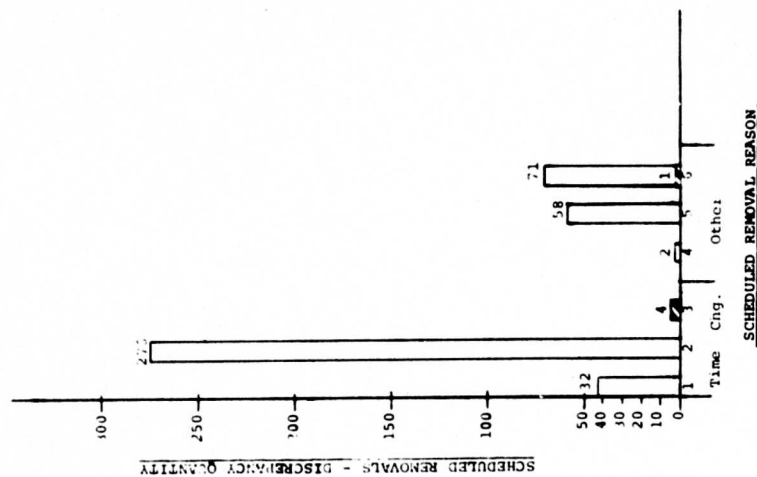


FIGURE 6. SCHEDULED REMOVALS - FORWARD BLADES - CH-47A.

DISTRIBUTION PERCENTAGES

No.	REMOVAL Reason	REPAIRED BLADES		SCRAPPED BLADES		Total Quantity Removed	% of Total Inherent Discrep.
		Blade Quantity	% of Inherent Discrep.	Blade Quantity	% of Inherent Discrep.		
1	Loose/Missing	1	0.14			1	0.13
2	Bare Steel	18	2.48			18	2.43
3	Deterioration	15	2.07			15	2.03
4	Rippled	4	0.55			4	0.54
5	Wtr. Migration						
6	Intermittent						
7	Bulged	2	0.28			2	0.27
8	Blistered						
9	Bond Voids	138	19.03	6	37.50	144	19.43
10	Unbonded						
11	Vibr.	1	0.14			1	0.13
12	Unable to adjust	2	0.28			2	0.27
13	Erosion	9	1.24			9	1.22
14	Corroded	92	12.69	7	43.75	99	13.36
15	Peeling						
16	Chipped	10	1.37			10	1.35
17	Corrod-						
18	Stained	1	0.14			1	0.13
19	Seized						
20	Wtr. Migration	1	0.14			1	0.13
21	Pitted						
22	Voided	11	1.52			11	1.49
23	Delam.	1	0.14			1	0.13
24	Cracked	20	2.76	3	18.75	23	3.10
25	Split	19	2.62			19	2.56
26	Creased	14	1.93			14	1.89
27	Cracked	338	46.62			338	45.62
28	Cracked	10	1.37			10	1.35
29	Split						
30	Fretted	1	0.14			1	0.13
31	Worn						
32	Fretted						
33	Tip Rod Loose	4	0.55			4	0.54
34	Imbal-	4	0.55			4	0.54
35	Imbalance						
TOTALS		725	100.00%	16	100.00%	741	100.00%

☐ Repaired Blades
☒ Scrapped Blades

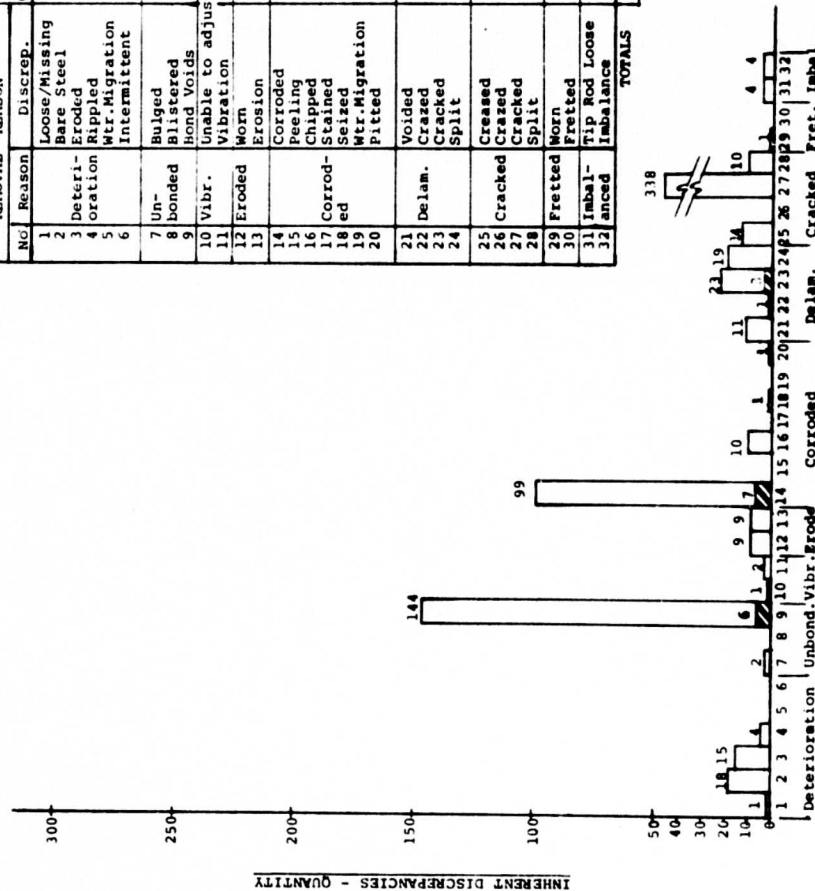


FIGURE 7. INHERENT DISCREPANCY REMOVALS - AFT BLADES - CH-47A.

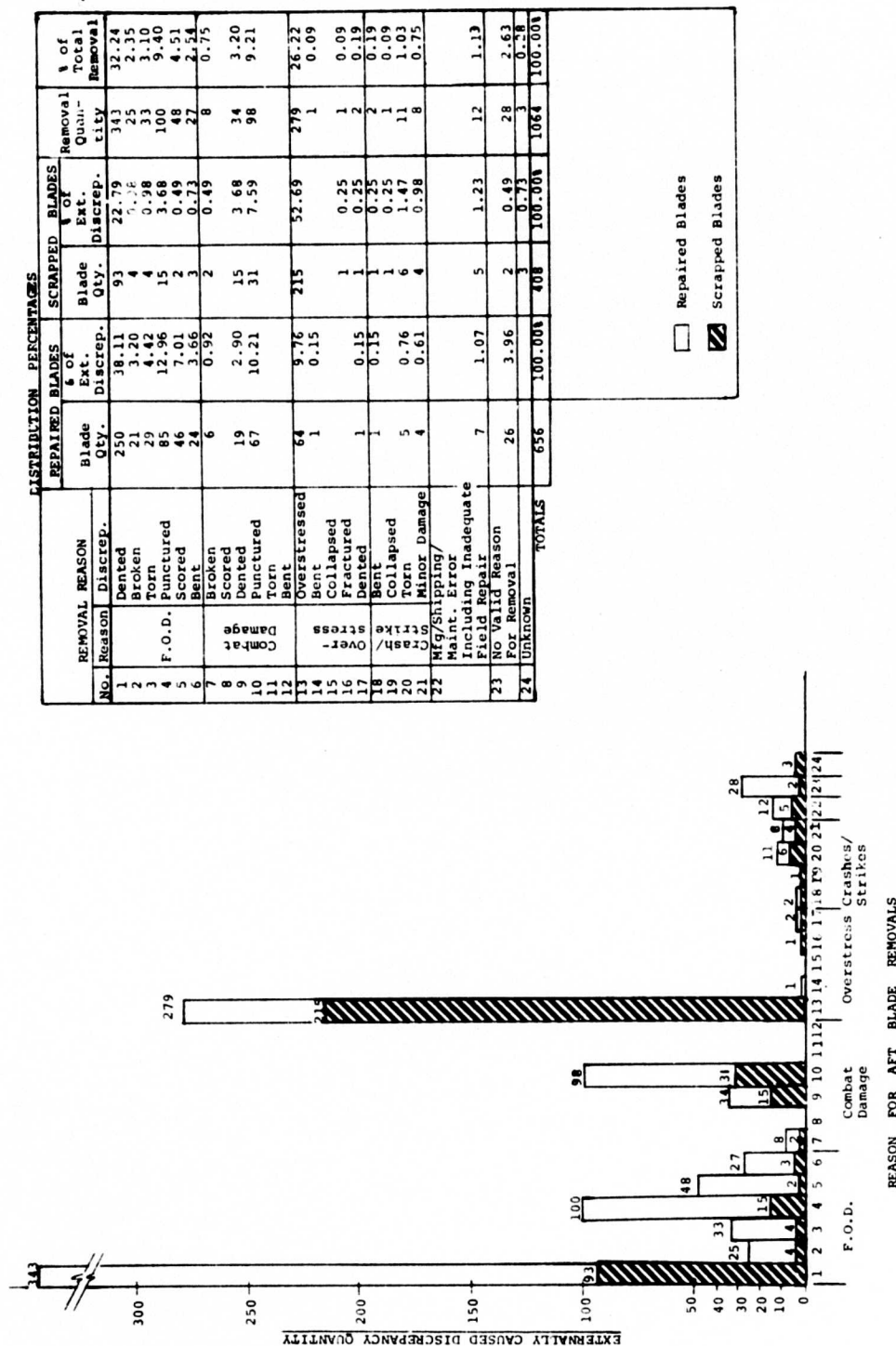


FIGURE 8. EXTERNAL DISCREPANCY REMOVALS - AFT BLADES - CH-47A

TABLE X. SUMMARY OF PERCENTAGES OF REMOVALS - CH-47A
FORWARD AND AFT ROTOR BLADES

MAJOR DISCREPANCY REMOVAL REASON	FORWARD ROTOR BLADES *						AFT ROTOR BLADES +					
	Total - All Blades			Scrapped Blades			Total - All Blades			Scrapped Blades		
	Qty.	Pct.	Qty.	Pct.	Qty.	Pct.	Qty.	Pct.	Qty.	Pct.	Qty.	Pct.
Deterioration	33	1.55	33	1.55	--	0	38	1.62	38	1.62	--	0
Unbonded	129	6.07	128	6.02	1	0.05	146	6.22	140	5.60	6	0.26
Vibration	16	0.75	16	0.75	--	0	3	0.13	3	0.13	--	0
Erosion	72	3.39	72	3.39	--	0	18	0.77	18	0.77	--	0
Corrosion	143	6.73	135	6.35	8	0.38	111	4.73	104	4.43	7	0.30
Delaminated	47	2.21	47	2.21	--	0	54	2.30	51	2.17	3	0.13
Cracked	200	9.41	199	9.36	1	0.05	362	15.41	362	15.41	--	0
Fretted	1	0.05	1	0.05	--	0	1	0.04	1	0.04	--	0
Imbalance	51	2.40	51	2.40	--	0	8	0.34	8	0.34	--	0
F.O.D.	648	30.48	588	27.66	60	2.82	576	24.52	455	19.37	121	5.15
Combat Damage	146	6.87	99	4.66	47	2.81	140	5.96	92	3.92	48	2.04
Overstress	113	5.31	69	3.24	44	2.07	283	12.05	66	2.81	217	9.24
Crashes/Strikes	35	1.65	15	0.71	20	0.94	32	0.94	10	0.43	12	0.51
Error	33	1.55	26	1.22	7	0.33	12	0.50	7	0.29	5	0.21
No Valid Reason	15	0.70	15	0.70	--	0	28	1.19	26	1.10	2	0.09
Miscellaneous	1	0.05	--	0	1	0.05	3	0.13	--	0	3	0.13
Time Change	312	14.67	308	14.48	4	0.19	460	19.58	391	16.64	69	2.94
Other	131	6.16	130	6.11	1	0.05	84	3.57	83	3.53	1	0.04
TOTAL	2126	100.00	1932	90.87	194	9.13	2349	100.00	1855	78.97	494	21.04

* Percentages based upon a total of 2,126 forward blades.

+ Percentages based upon a total of 2,349 aft blades.

CH-47A Forward and Aft Blades Means Analyses

A series of evaluations of the CH-47A rotor blades for their average removal characteristics based upon frequency of blade removal was accomplished. These calculations of the various removal means followed the approach outlined on pages 20 and 21. Results are given in blade hours.

Tables XI, XII, and XIII list the means determined for the major discrepant reasons for removal of CH-47A forward rotor blades.

Tables XIV, XV, and XVI list similar determinations accomplished for the CH-47A aft rotor blades.

Table XVII presents a summary of the results of these analyses for both CH-47A forward and aft blades.

TABLE XI. MEAN-TIME-BETWEEN-REMOVALS - FORWARD BLADES - CH-47A

REASONS FOR REMOVAL	RETURNED BLADES			SCRAPPED BLADES			TOTAL BLADES		
	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Fwd. Bld. Flight Hours	MTBF	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Fwd. Bld. Flight Hours	MTBF	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Fwd. Bld. Flight Hours	MTBF
Inherent Discrep.	682		2,860	10		195,062	692		2,812
Deterioration	33		59,109				33		59,109
Unbonded	128		15,239	1		1,950,618	129		15,121
Excessive Vibration	16		121,914				16		121,914
Erosion/Wear	72	1,950,618	27,092		1,950,618		72	1,950,618	27,092
Corroded	135		14,449	8		243,827	143		13,641
Delamination	47		41,503				47		41,503
Cracked	199		9,802	1		1,950,618	200		9,753
Fretted	1		1,950,618				1		1,950,618
Imbalance	51		38,247				51		38,247
Externally-Caused Discrep.	771		2,530	171		11,407	942		2,071
Foreign Object Damage	588		3,317	60		32,510	648		3,016
Combat Damage	99	1,950,618	19,703	47	1,950,618	41,503	146	1,950,618	13,369
Overstressed	69		28,270	44		44,332	113		17,262
Crashes/Strikes	15		130,041	20		97,531	35		55,731
No Valid Removal Reason	15	1,950,618	130,041	1	1,950,618	1,950,618	16	1,950,618	121,914
Error	26	1,950,618	72,024	7	1,950,618	278,660	33	1,950,618	59,109
Scheduled Removal	438		4,453	5		390,124	443		4,403
Time Change	308	1,950,618	6,332	4	1,950,618	487,654	312	1,950,618	6,152
Other	130		15,005	1		1,950,618	131		14,890
All Causes	1,932	1,950,618	1,009	194	1,950,618	10,055	2,126	1,950,618	917

* Manufacturing/Shipping/Handling Error Including Inadequate Field Repair

TABLE XII. MEAN-TIME-TO-REMOVAL - FORWARD BLADES - CH-47A

REASONS FOR REMOVAL	REPAIRED BLADES			SCRAPPED BLADES			TOTAL BLADES		
	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Fwd Blade Flight Hours	MTRF	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Fwd Blade Flight Hours	MTRF	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Fwd Blade Flight Hours	MTRF
Inherent Discrepancies	682	320,803	470	10	5,476	548	692	326,279	472
Deterioration	33	15,427	467				33	15,427	467
Unbonded	128	59,167	462	1	24	24	129	59,191	459
Excessive Vibration	16	7,267	454				16	7,267	454
Erosion/Wear	72	35,839	498				72	35,839	498
Corrosion	135	64,209	476	8	5,114	639	143	69,323	485
Delamination	47	24,948	531				47	24,948	531
Cracked	199	91,863	462	1	338	338	200	92,201	461
Fretted	1	99	99				1	99	99
Imbalance	51	21,984	431				51	21,984	431
Externally Caused Discrepancies	771	347,103	450	171	60,518	354	942	407,621	433
Foreign Object Damage	588	270,767	460	60	23,572	283	648	294,339	454
Combat Damage	99	40,775	412	47	14,607	311	146	55,382	379
Overstressed	69	30,250	438	44	17,780	404	113	48,030	425
Crashes/Strikes	15	5,311	354	20	4,559	228	35	9,870	282
No Valid Reason for Removal	15	4,011	287	1	267	267	16	4,278	267
Error Δ	26	7,748	298	7	1,596	228	33	9,344	283
Scheduled Removals	438	245,964	508	5	14,989	2,998	443	260,953	534
MWO Compliance	32	16,894	528				32	16,894	528
Scheduled Maintenance *	276	176,659	640				276	176,659	640
To Facilitate Maintenance *	58	26,524	457				58	26,524	457
EIR	2	1,484	742				2	1,484	742
Retired Blades				4	13,429	3,357		13,429	3,357
Miscellaneous *	70	44,401	634	1	1,560	1,560	71	45,961	647
All Causes	1,932	945,627	490	194	82,846	427	2,126	1,028,473	484

* No Defect

Δ Manufacturing/Shipping/Handling Error Including Inadequate Field Repair

TABLE XIII. MEAN-TIME-BETWEEN-UNSCHEDULED REMOVAL - FORWARD BLADES - CH-47A

REASONS FOR REMOVAL	REPAIRED BLADES			SCRAPPED BLADES			TOTAL BLADES		
	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Fwd. Bid. Flight Hours	MTBUR ^F	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Fwd. Bid. Flight Hours	MTBUR ^F	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Fwd. Bid. Flight Hours	MTBUR ^F
Inherent Discrep.	682		2,860	10		195,062	692		2,819
Deterioration:	33		59,109				33		59,109
Untended	128		15,239	1		1,950,618	129		15,121
Excessive Vibration	16		121,914				16		121,914
Erosion/Wear	72	1,950,618	27,092		1,950,618		72	1,950,618	27,092
Corroded	135		14,449	8		243,827	143		13,641
Delamination	47		41,503				47		41,503
Cracked	199		9,802	1		1,950,618	200		9,753
Fretted	1		1,950,618				1		1,950,618
Imbalance	51		38,247				51		38,247
Externally-Caused Discrep.	771		2,530	171		11,407	942		2,071
Foreign Object Damage	588		3,317	66		32,510	648		3,810
Combat Damage	99	1,950,618	19,703	47	1,950,618	41,503	146	1,950,618	13,360
Overstressed	69		28,270	44		44,332	113		17,262
Crashes/Strikes	15		130,041	20		97,530	35		55,732
No Valid Removal Reason	15	1,950,618	130,041	1	1,950,618	1,950,618	16	1,950,618	121,914
Error *	26	1,950,618	75,024	7	1,950,618	278,660	33	1,950,618	59,109
All Causes	1,494	1,950,618	1,7306	189	1,950,618	10,320	1,683	1,950,618	1,159

* Manufacturing/Shipping/Handling Error Including Inadequate Field Repair.

TABLE XIV. MEAN-TIME-BETWEEN-REMOVAL - AFT BLADES - CH-47A

REASONS FOR REMOVAL	REPAIRED BLADES			SCRAPPED BLADES			TOTAL BLADES		
	Qty. of Blades Removed	Aft Blade Flight Hours	MTBR ^A	Qty. of Blades Removed	Aft Blade Flight Hours	MTBP ^A	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Aft Blade Flight Hours	MTBR ^A
Inherent Discrepancies	725		2,690	16		121,914	741		2,632
Deterioration	38		51,332				38		51,332
Unbonded	140		13,933	6		325,103	146		13,360
Excessive Vibration	3		650,206				3		650,206
Erosion/Wear	18	1,950,618	180,367		1,950,618		18	1,950,618	108,367
Corrosion	104		18,755	7		278,659	111		17,573
Delamination	51		38,247				51		38,247
Cracked	362		5,388	3		650,236	365		5,344
Fretted	1		1,950,618				1		1,950,618
Imbalance	8		243,827				8		243,827
Externally Caused Discrepancies	624		3,131	398		4,900	1,021		3,388
Foreign Object Damage	455		4,287	121		16,121	576		4,388
Combat Damage	92	1,950,618	21,202	48	1,950,618	40,638	140	1,950,618	13,933
Overstressed	66		29,555	217		8,989	283		6,893
Crashes/Strikes	10		195,062	12		162,552	22		88,664
No Valid Reason for Removal	26	1,950,618	75,024	5	1,950,618	390,124	31	1,950,618	62,923
Error	7	1,950,618	278,680	5	1,950,618	390,124	12	1,950,618	162,552
Scheduled Removals	474		4,115	73		27,866	544		3,586
MMO Compliance	30		65,000	5		390,124	35		55,732
Scheduled Maintenance	361		5,403	38		51,332	399		4,889
Facilitate Maintenance	21	1,950,618	92,886	1	1,950,618	1,950,618	22	1,950,618	88,664
EIR	2		975,309				2		975,309
Retired				24		75,024	26		75,024
Miscellaneous	60		32,510				60		32,510
All Causes	1,855	1,950,618	1,052	494	1,950,618	3,950	2,349	1,950,618	838

^A Manufacturing/Shipping/Handling Error Including Inadequate Field Repair.

TABLE XV. MEAN-TIME-TO-REMOVAL - AFT BLADES - CH-47A

REASONS FOR REMOVAL	REPAIRED BLADES			SCRAPPED BLADES			TOTAL BLADES		
	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Aft Bld. Flight Hours	MTTR ^A	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Aft Bld. Flight Hours	MTTR ^A	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Aft Bld. Flight Hours	MTTR ^A
Inherent discrep.	725	442,206	610	16	5,550	347	741	447,756	604
Deterioration	38	23,168	610	-	-	-	38	23,168	610
Unbonded	140	80,038	572	6	1,703	284	146	81,741	560
Excessive Vibration	3	1,851	617	-	-	-	3	1,851	617
Erosion/Wear	18	10,436	580	-	-	-	18	10,436	580
Corrosion	104	69,682	670	7	2,382	340	111	72,064	649
Delamination	51	33,958	666	-	-	-	51	33,958	666
Cracked	362	218,001	602	3	1,465	488	365	219,466	601
Fretted	1	202	202	-	-	-	1	202	202
Imbalance	8	4,870	609	-	-	-	8	4,870	610
Externally-Caused Discrepancies	623	211,296	339	398	144,816	364	1,021	356,112	359
Foreign Object Damage	455	157,344	346	121	44,321	366	576	201,665	350
Combat Damage	92	30,886	336	48	17,041	355	140	47,927	342
Overstressed	66	20,187	306	217	79,069	364	283	99,256	351
Crashes/Strikes	10	2,879	288	12	4,385	365	22	7,264	330
No Valid Removal Reason	26	9,860	379	5	2,557	511	31	12,417	401
Error	7	2,748	393	5	2,057	411	12	4,805	400
Scheduled Removals	474	404,257	431	70	80,072	1,144	544	484,329	523
MWO Compliance	30	8,411	480	5	1,492	298	35	9,903	283
Scheduled Maintenance	361	160,818	445	38	18,885	497	399	179,703	450
Facilitate Maintenance	21	6,859	327	1	294	294	22	7,153	325
EIR	2	543	272	-	-	-	2	543	272
Miscellaneous	60	27,626	460	-	-	-	60	27,626	460
Retired Blades	-	-	-	26	59,401	2,285	26	59,401	2,284
TOTAL All Causes	1,855	870,367	469	494	235,052	476	2,349	1,105,419	471

* Manufacturing/Shipping/Handling Error Including Inadequate Field Repair.

TABLE XVI. MEAN-TIME-BETWEEN-UNSCHEDULED-REMOVAL - AFT BLADES - CH-47A

REASONS FOR REMOVAL	REPAIRED BLADES			SCRAPPED BLADES			TOTAL BLADES		
	Qty. of Blades Removed	Aft Blade Flight Hours	MTBUR A	Qty. of Blades Removed	Aft Blade Flight Hours	MTBUR A	Qty. of Blades Removed	Aft Blade Flight Hours	MTBUR A
Inherent Discrepancies	725		2,690	16		121,914	741		2,632
Deterioration	38		51,332				38		51,332
Unbonded	140		13,933				146		13,360
Excessive Vibration	3		650,206	6		325,103	3		650,206
Erosion/Wear	18		180,367				18		108,367
Corroded	104	1,950,618	18,235	7	1,950,618	278,659	111	1,950,618	17,573
Delamination	51		38,247				51		38,247
Cracked	362		5,388	3		650,206	365		5,344
Fretted	1		1,950,618				1		1,950,618
Imbalance	8		243,827				8		243,827
Externally-Caused Discrepancies	623		3,131	398		4,900	1,021		1,910
Foreign Object Damage	455		4,287	121		6,121	576		3,386
Combat Damage	92	1,950,618	21,202	48	1,950,618	40,638	140	1,950,618	13,933
Overstressed	66		29,555	217		8,989	283		6,893
Crashes/Strikes	10		195,062	12		162,552	22		88,664
NO Valid Removal Reason	26	1,950,618	75,024	5	1,950,618	390,123	31	1,950,618	62,923
Error #	7	1,950,618	278,659	5	1,950,618	390,123	12	1,950,618	162,552
All Causes	1,381	1,950,618	1,412	424	1,950,618	4,600	1,805	1,950,618	1,080

* Manufacturing/shipping/handling error including inadequate field repair

TABLE XVII. SUMMARY OF CH-47A FORWARD AND AFT BLADE MEANS

	BLADE	COMBINED VALUES		INHERENT DISCREPANCY	EXTERNALLY CAUSED DISCREPANCY	ERROR CAUSED DISCREPANCY	SCHEDULED REMOVALS	NO VALID REMOVAL REASON
		Repaired	Scrapped					
FORWARD BLADES	MTBR _F	1,009	10,055	2,860	2,530	75,024	4,453	130,041
	MTTR _F	427	917	195,062	11,407	278,660	390,124	1,950,618
	Total	490	2,819	2,819	2,071	59,109	4,403	121,914
	MTBUR _F	427	917	470	450	238	608	267
AFT BLADES	MTBR _A	1,306	10,320	2,860	2,530	75,024	N.A.	130,041
	MTTR _A	476	1,159	195,062	11,407	278,660	N.A.	1,950,618
	Total	1,052	3,950	2,819	2,071	59,109	N.A.	121,914
	MTBUR _A	469	830	2,690	3,131	278,659	4,115	75,024
	MTBR _A	476	1,159	121,914	4,900	390,135	27,866	390,124
	MTTR _A	476	1,159	2,632	1,910	162,552	3,586	62,923
	Total	471	1,412	610	339	393	431	379
	MTBUR _A	471	1,412	347	364	411	1,144	511
	MTBR _A	471	1,412	604	349	400	523	401
	MTTR _A	471	1,412	2,690	3,131	278,659	N.A.	75,024
	Total	4,600	121,914	4,900	4,900	390,124	N.A.	390,124
	MTBUR _A	1,080	2,632	2,632	1,910	162,552	N.A.	62,923

N.A. - Not Applicable
 MTBR - Mean-Time-Between Removals
 MTTR - Mean-Time-To-Removal
 MTBUR - Mean-Time-Between Unscheduled Removals

Discrepancy Locations Versus Types of Discrepancies

Data included herein has been based upon 'Reasons for Removal' only.

This investigation simplified the amount of data handled by confining the results to discrepancy locations versus types of inherent discrepancies and to externally-caused discrepancies only.

Figures 10 and 11 illustrate the results obtained for the CH-47A forward blades. Figures 12 and 13 illustrate similar results obtained for the CH-47A aft blades.

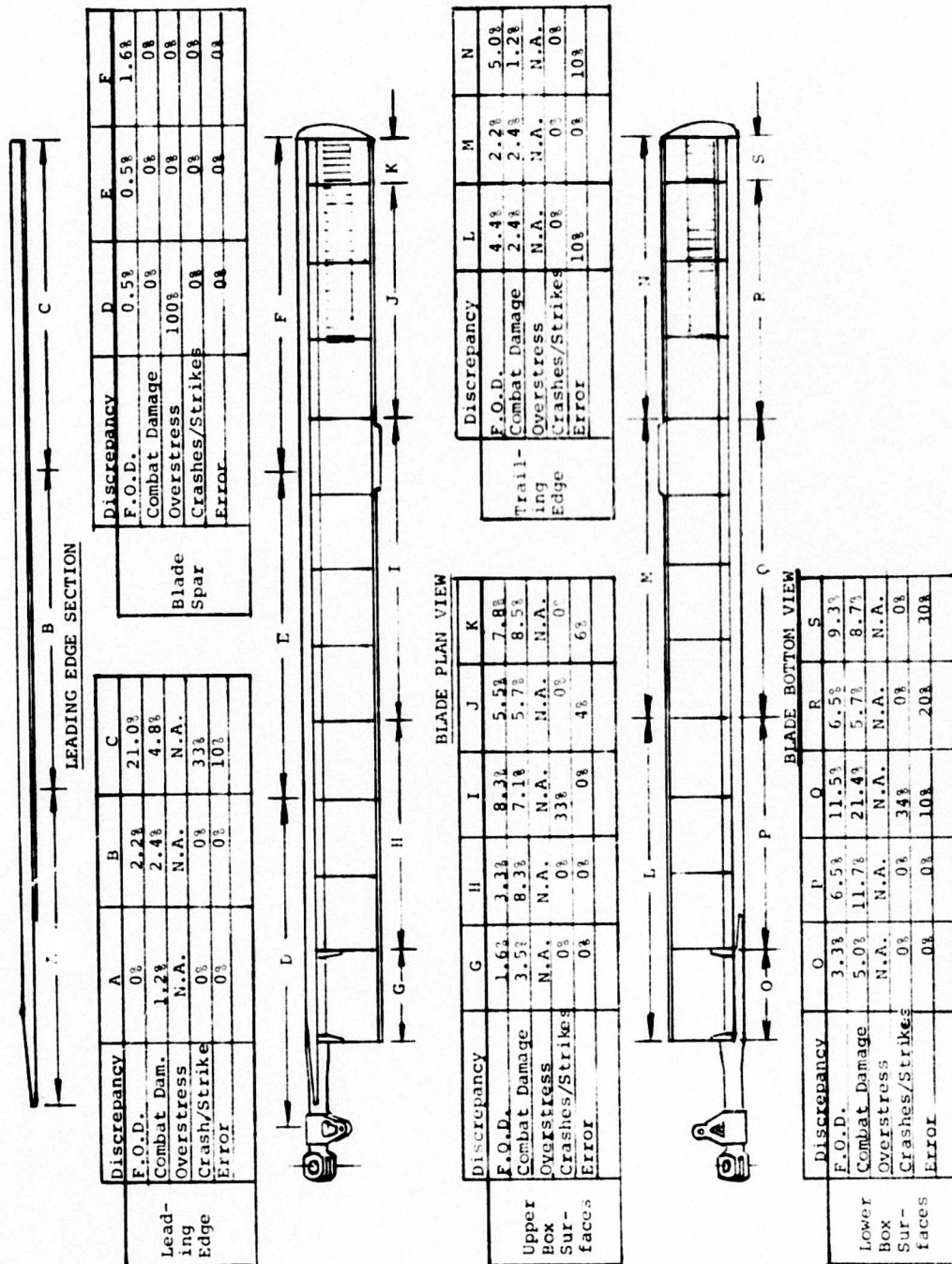


FIGURE 11. EXTERNAL DISCREPANCY LOCATIONS - FORWARD BLADES - CH-47A.

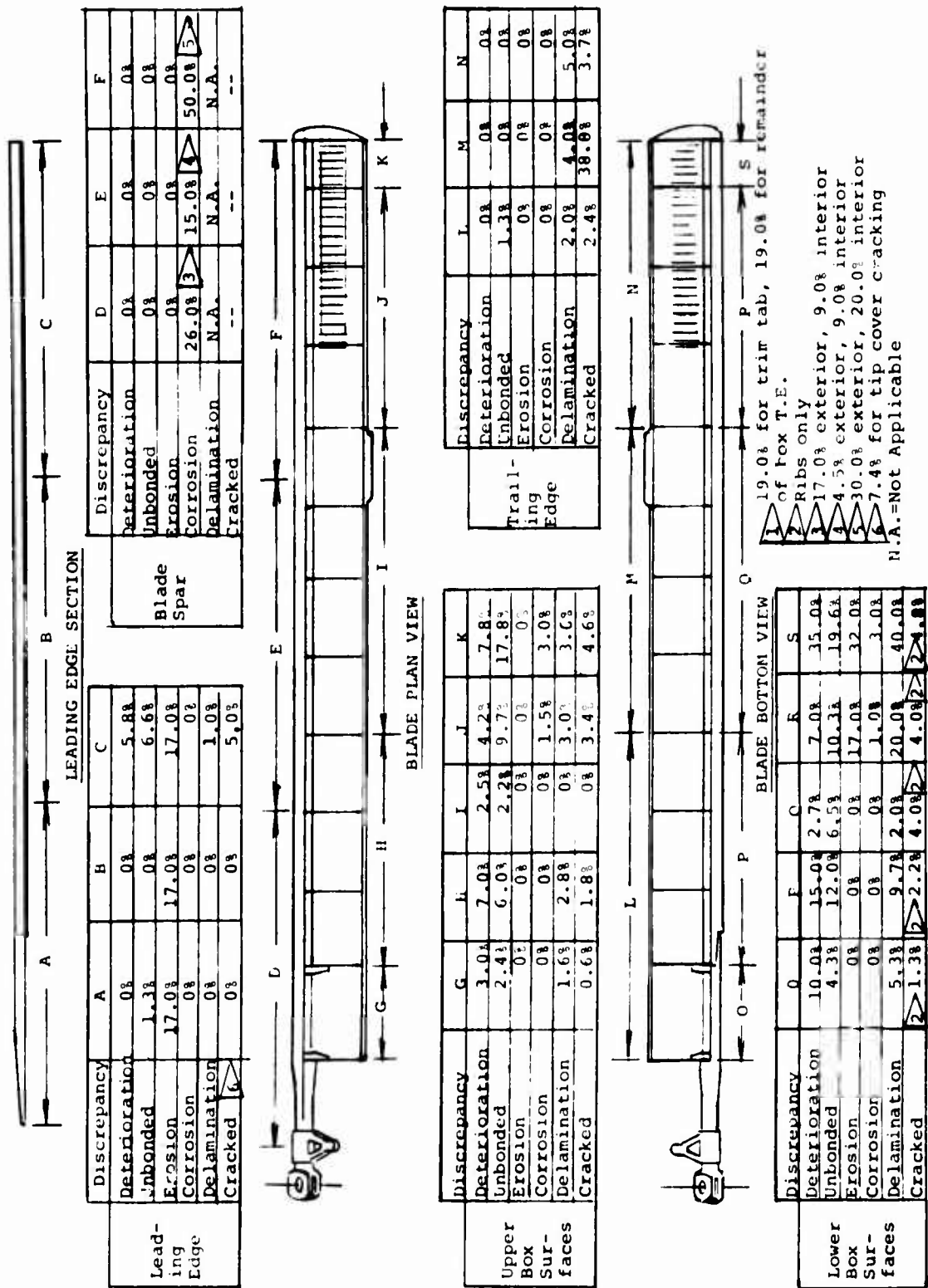


FIGURE 12. INHERENT DISCREPANCY LOCATIONS - AFT BLADES - CH-47A.

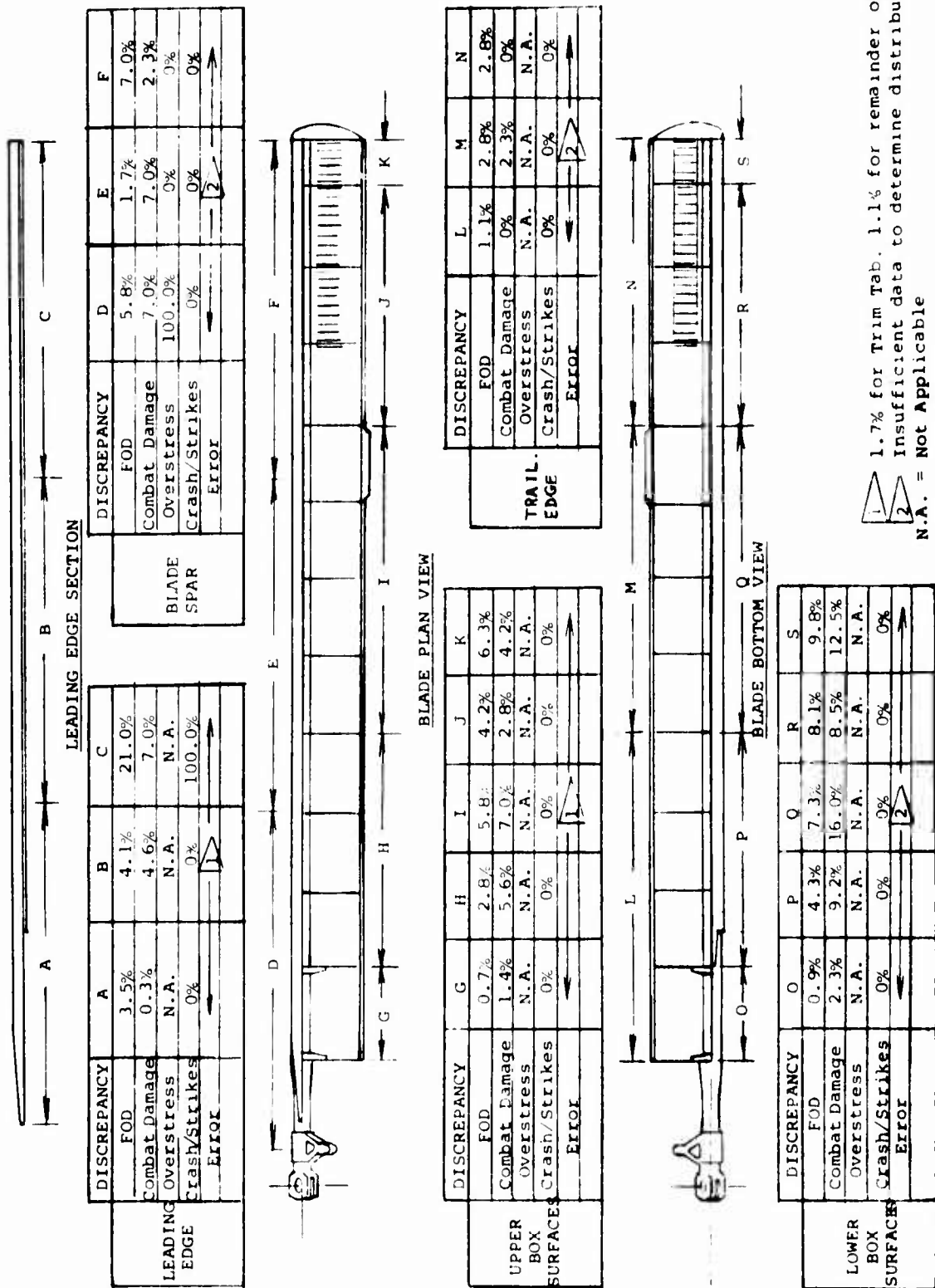


FIGURE 13. EXTERNAL DISCREPANCY LOCATIONS - AFT BLADES - CH-47A.

CH-47B/C Forward and Aft Blades Removal Analysis

The removal status of 1,013 rotor blades was reviewed, 512 of which were forward blades and 501 were aft blades.

Table XVIII summarizes the removal status for the most frequently occurring causes of removal of the forward blades. Table XIX summarizes similar information for the aft blades.

Figures 14, 15 and 16 illustrate the quantity of forward blades removed for the reasons under study. Figures 17, 18, and 19 illustrate the quantity of aft blades removed for similar reasons. Note that scrapped blade quantities are identified. In these figures the reason for removal of a blade that is scrapped is used, not the reason for scrappage unless they coincide.

A summary of the percentages of CH-47B/C forward and aft blade removals versus reasons for removal is presented in Table XX, on page 55; for a comparison to the percentages of CH-47A forward and aft blade removals, see Table X, page 32.

TABLE XVIII. PERCENTAGES OF FORWARD BLADE REMOVALS - CH-47B/C					
REPAIRED BLADES			SCRAPPED BLADES		
REMOVAL REASON	QTY.	% OF TOTAL REMOVALS *	REMOVAL REASON	QTY.	% OF TOTAL REMOVALS *
F.O.D. Denting	106	20.70	Combat Damage Punctures	17	3.32
F.O.D. Punctures	30	5.86	F.O.D. Denting	12	2.34
Combat Damage Punct.	30	5.86	Combat Damage - Dent	10	1.95
Unbond.(Bulged) Boxes	30	5.86	F.O.D. - Punctured	4	0.78
Corrosion	30	5.86	Overstress	3	0.59
Overstress	29	5.66	Manuf/Ship/Maint Error	3	0.59
No Defect-Sched.Maint.	23	4.49			
Box - Bond Voids	18	3.52			
Unbonded - Blistered	16	3.13			
No Valid Rem. Reason	16	3.13			
Combat Damage - Dent	14	2.73			
F.O.D. Torn	13	2.54			
No Defect -	10	1.95			
To Facilitate Maint.					
Remainder	92	17.97	Remainder	6	1.17
TOTALS	457	89.26%		55	10.74%

* Total forward blade removals equals 457 + 55 = 512

TABLE XIX. PERCENTAGES OF AFT BLADE REMOVALS - CH-47B/C					
REPAIRED BLADES			SCRAPPED BLADES		
REMOVAL REASON	QTY.	% OF TOTAL REMOVALS *	REMOVAL REASON	QTY.	% OF TOTAL REMOVALS *
F.O.D. Denting Unbonded Boxes	91	18.16	F.O.D. Dented Crashes/Strikes -	23	4.59
F.O.D. Punctures	39	7.78	Minor Damage	13	2.60
Combat Damage - Punct.	35	6.99	Combat Damage - Dents	5	1.80
Overstress	34	6.79	Combat Damage - Punct.	8	1.59
Unbonded (Bulged) Boxes	27	5.39	Internal Discrep. Corr.	3	0.60
No Valid Removal Reason	26	5.19	F.O.D. - Punctures	3	0.60
No Defect (Sched.Maint.)	23	4.59			
Corrosion	22	4.39			
Unbonded (Voids) Boxes	17	3.39			
MWO Compliance	14	2.79			
Combat Damage - Dents	13	2.60			
Delaminated (Voids)	13	2.60			
Remainder	9	1.80			
	67	13.37	Remainder	12	2.40
TOTALS	430	85.83%		71	14.17%
* Total aft blade removals equals 430 + 71 = 501 blades					

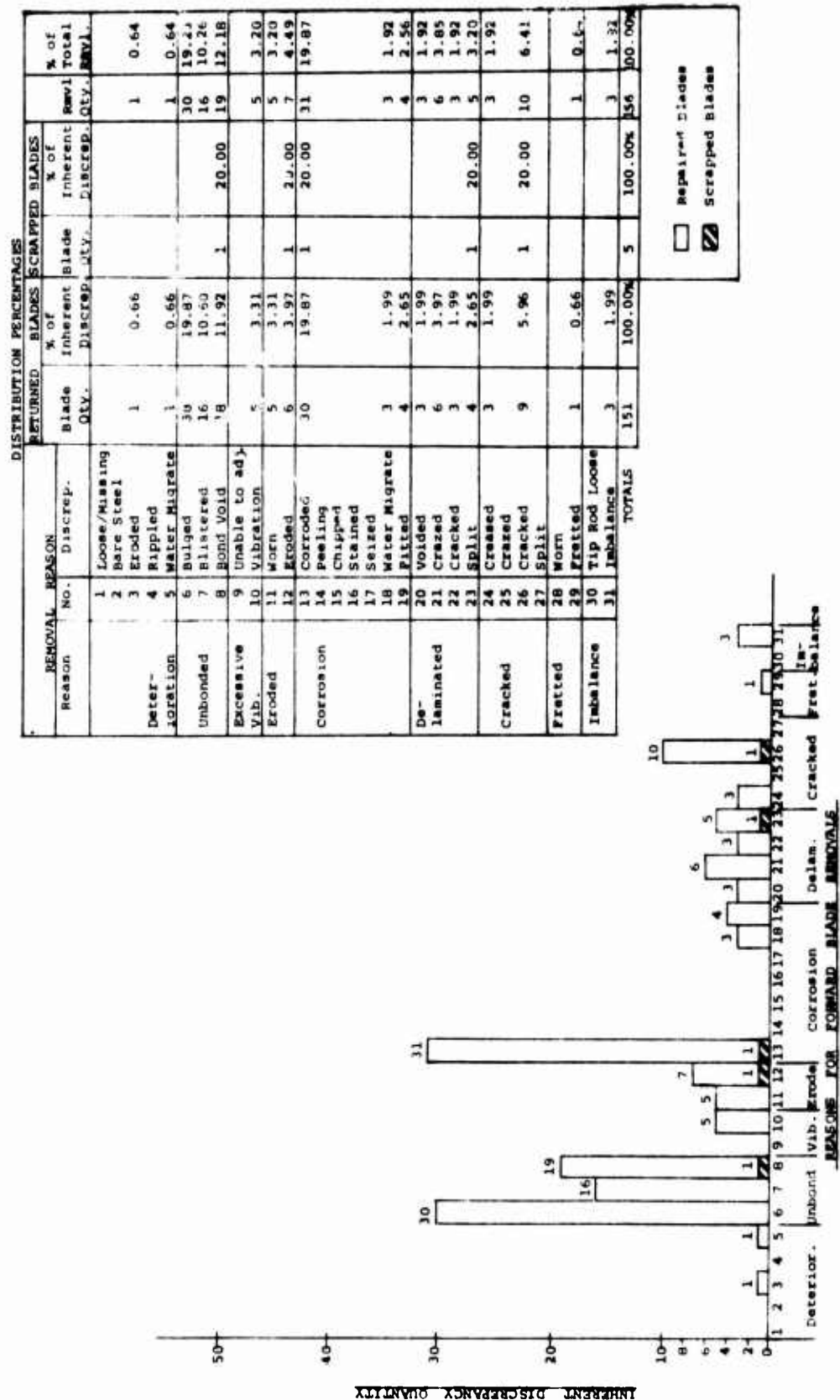


FIGURE 14. INHERENT DISCREPANCY-CAUSED REMOVALS - FORWARD BLADES - CH-47 B/C.

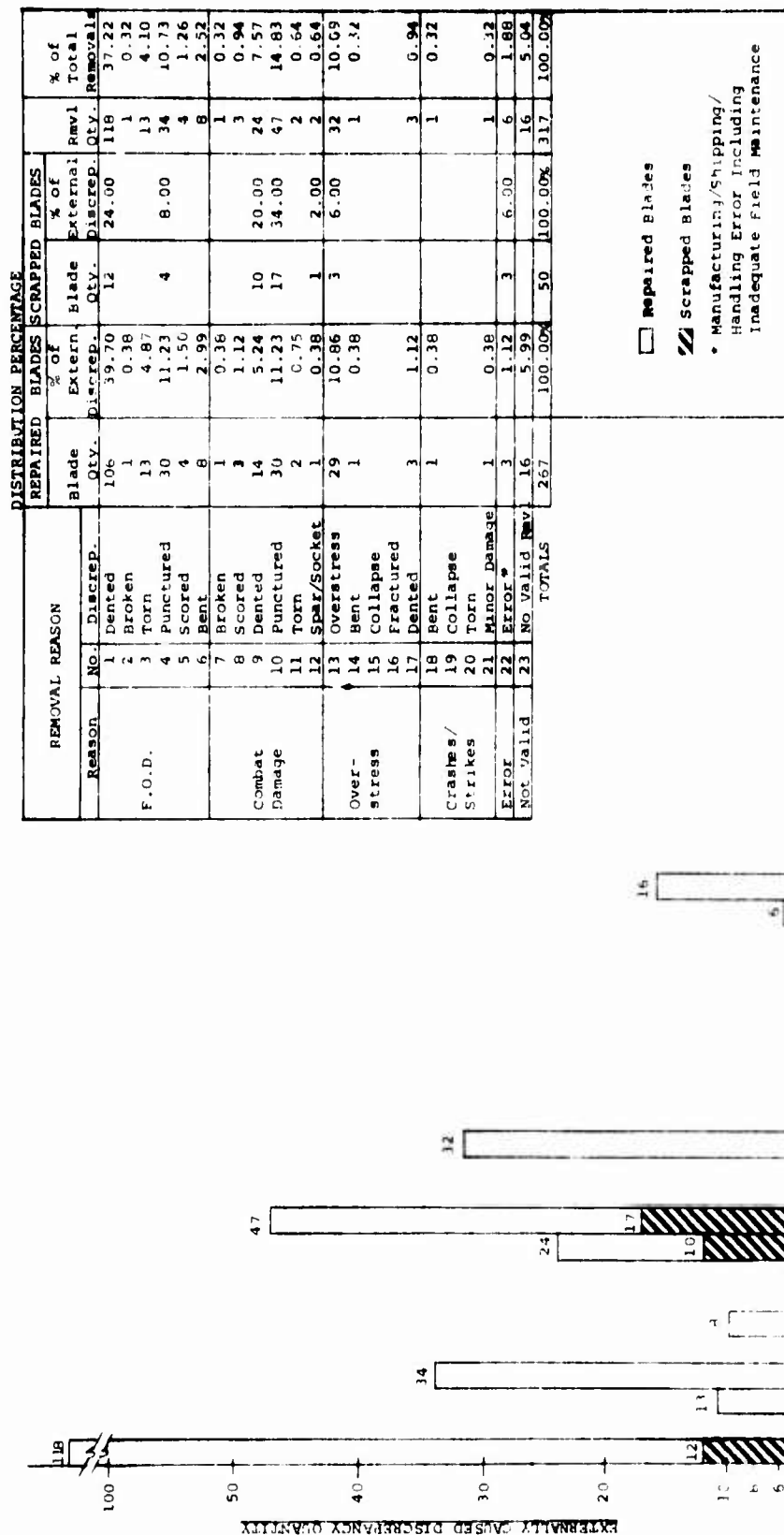


FIGURE 15. EXTERNALLY-CAUSED DISCREPANCY REMOVALS - FORWARD BLADES - CH-47 B/C.

REMOVAL REASON		REPAIRED BLADES		SCRAPPED BLADES		% of Total Removals
		Blade Qty.	% of Scheduled Removals	Scheduled Blade Qty.	% of Scheduled Removals	
Reason No. 1	Discrep. NO	2	5.13	2	5.13	5.13
Time Change	2 No Defect (Scheduled Maintenance)	23	58.97	23	58.97	58.97
Other	3 Retired Blades					
	4 EIR Engr. Evaluation	2	5.13	2	5.13	5.13
	5 No Defect - (To facilitate maint.)	10	25.64	10	25.64	25.64
	6 Miscellaneous	2	5.13	2	5.13	5.13
TOTALS		39	100.00%	39	100.00%	100.00%

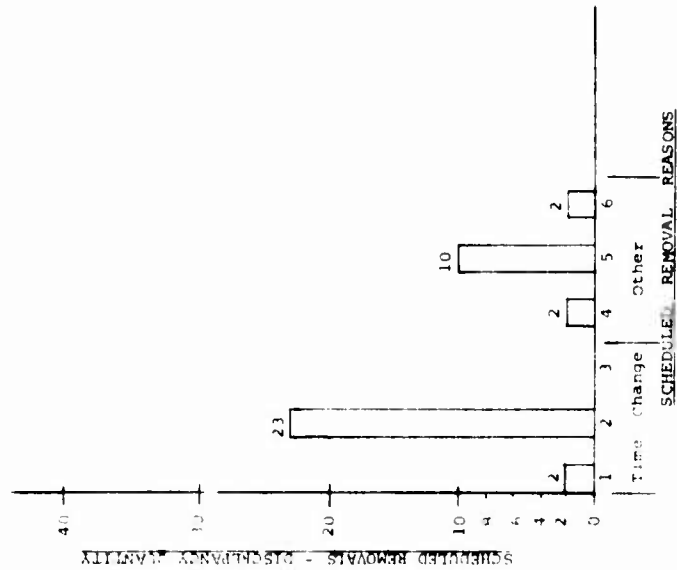


FIGURE 16. SCHEDULED REMOVALS - FORWARD BLADES - CH-47 B/C.

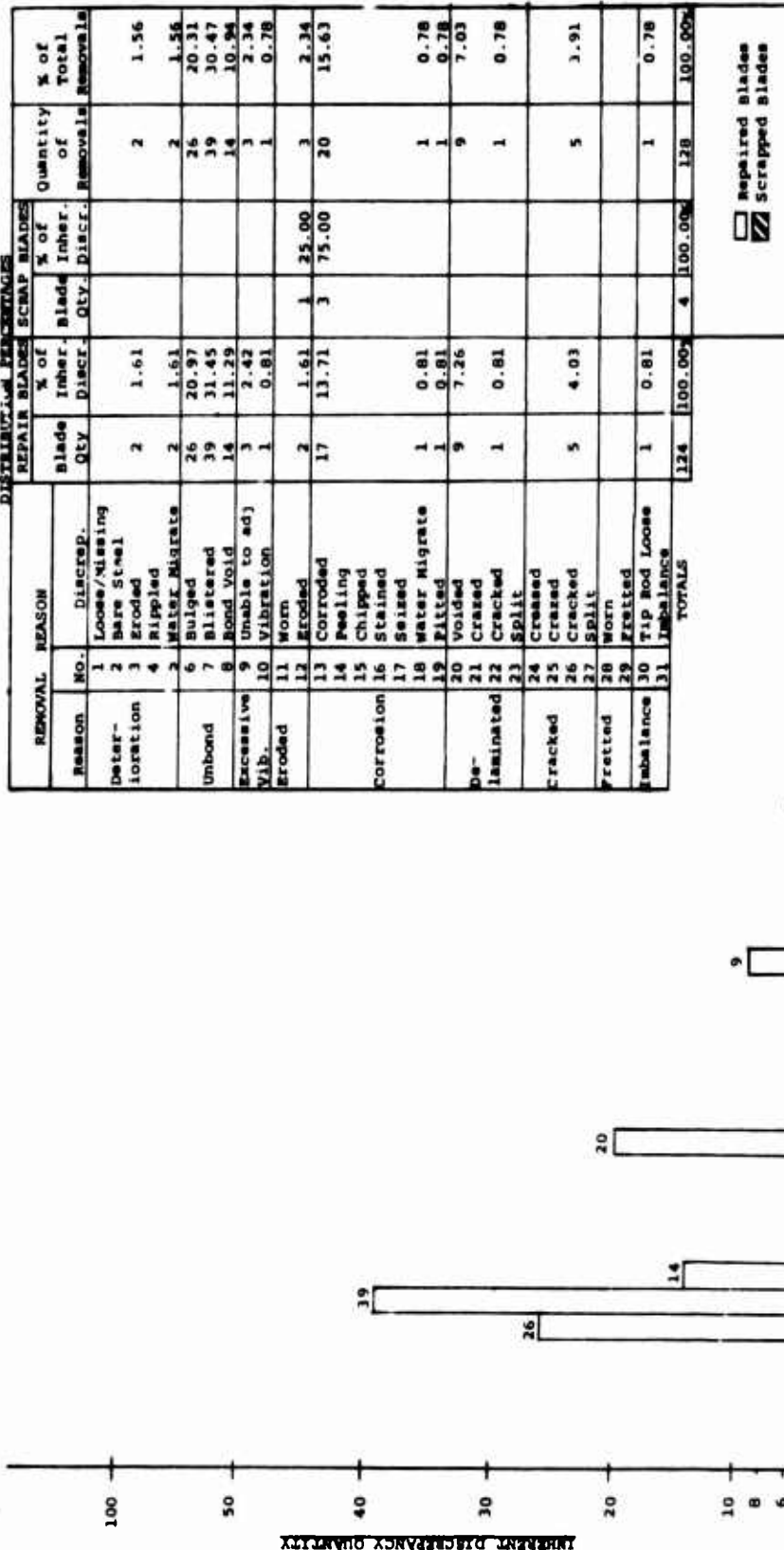


FIGURE 17. INHERENT DISCREPANCY-CAUSED REMOVALS - AFT BLADES - CH-47 B/C.

DISTRIBUTION PERCENTAGES									
REMOVAL REASON			REPAIRED BLADES			SCRAPPED BLADES			% of Total Removals
No.	Reason	Discrep.	Blade Qty.	% of External Discrep.	Blade Qty.	% of External Discrep.	Removal Quantity		
1	Dented	91	34.34	23	35.38	114	34.55		
2	Broken	17	6.42	1	1.54	1	0.30		
3	F.O.D.	35	13.21	3	4.62	38	11.51		
4	Punctured	7	2.64	2	3.08	9	2.73		
5	Scored	6	2.25			6	1.82		
6	Bent								
7	Broken	13	4.91	1	1.54	1	0.30		
8	Scored	34	12.83	9	13.84	22	6.67		
9	Combat Damage	3	1.13	8	12.30	42	12.73		
10	Punctured	27	10.19	1	1.54	4	1.21		
11	Torn								
12	SPAR/Socket								
13	Overstress	4	1.51	1	1.54	5	1.52		
14	Bent								
15	Collapsae	2	0.75	1	1.54	3	0.91		
16	Fractured	13	4.91	13	20.00	13	3.94		
17	Dented	3	1.13	2	3.08	5	1.52		
18	Bent								
19	Crashes/Collapse	3	1.13						
20	Strikes	23	8.68			23	6.97		
21	Minor Damage	265	100.00%	65	100.00%	330	100.00%		
22	Manuf/Ship/Maint Error								
23	No Valid Removal Reason								
TOTALS									

<input type="checkbox"/>	Repaired Blades
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Scrapped Blades

☐ Repaired blades
☒ Scrapped blades

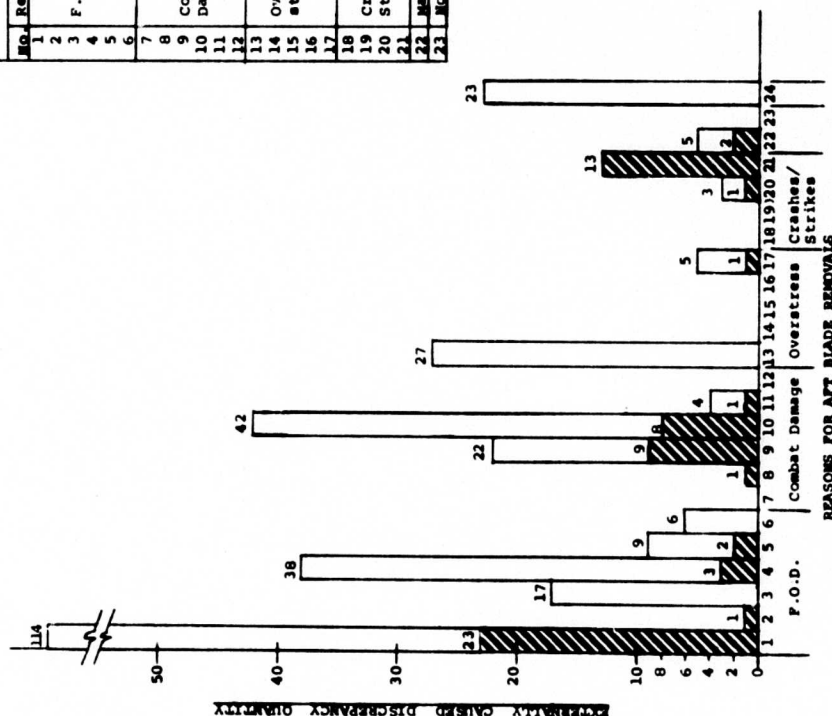


FIGURE 18. EXTERNALLY-CAUSED DISCREPANCY REMOVALS - APT BLADES - CH-47 B/C.

DISTRIBUTION PERCENTAGES

REMOVAL REASON		REPAIRED BLADES		SCRAPPED BLADES		Removal Qty	% of Total Removals
Reason	No.	Discrep.	Qty	Scheduled Blade Removals	Qty		
Time Change	1	M/O Compliance	13	31.71		13	30.23
	2	No Defect (Scheduled Maintenance)	22	53.66	2	24	55.81
	3	Retired Blades					
Other	4	EIR Engr. Eval.					
	5	No Defect (to facilitate maint)	6	14.63		6	13.95
	6	Other					
TOTALS			41	100.00%	2	43	100.00%

☐ Repaired Blades
☒ Scrapped Blades

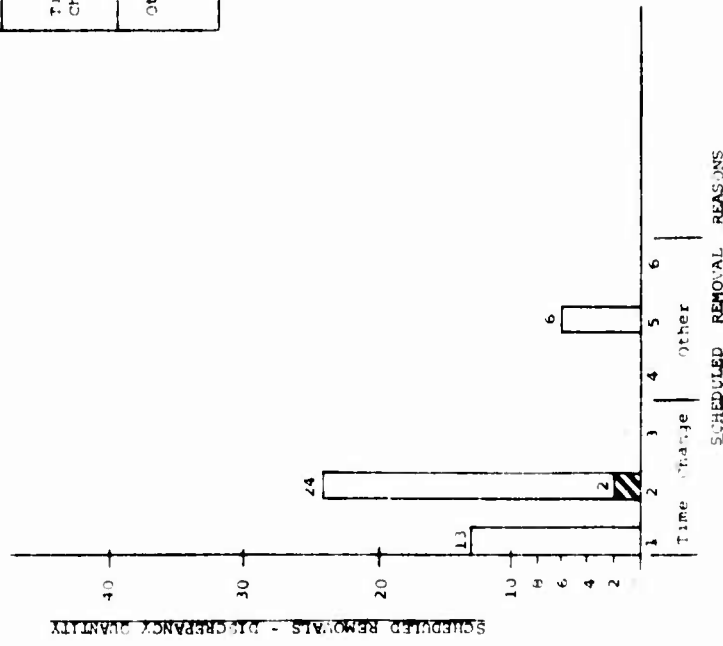


FIGURE 19. SCHEDULED REMOVALS - AFT BLADES - CH-47 B/C.

TABLE XX. SUMMARY OF PERCENTAGES OF REMOVALS -
CH-47B/C FORWARD AND AFT ROTOR BLADES

MAJOR DISCREPANCY REMOVAL REASON	FORWARD ROTOR BLADES *						AFT ROTOR BLADES +					
	Total - All Blades			Scrapped Blades			Total - All Blades			Repaired Blades		
	Qty.	%	Qty.	Qty.	%	Qty.	Qty.	%	Qty.	Qty.	%	Qty.
Deterioration	2	0.39	2	0	0	0	4	0.80	4	0.80	0	0
Unbonded	65	12.69	64	1	0.19	1	79	15.77	79	15.77	0	0
Vibration	5	0.98	5	0	0	0	4	0.80	4	0.80	0	0
Erosion	12	2.34	11	1	0.19	1	3	0.60	2	0.40	1	0.20
Corrosion	38	7.42	37	1	0.19	1	22	4.39	19	3.79	3	0.60
Delaminated	17	3.32	16	1	0.19	1	10	2.00	10	2.00	0	0
Cracked	13	2.54	12	1	0.19	1	5	1.00	5	1.00	0	0
Fretted	1	0.19	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Imbalance	3	0.59	3	0	0	0	1	0.20	1	0.20	0	0
F.O.D.	178	34.76	162	16	3.12	16	185	36.92	156	31.14	29	5.78
Combat Damage	79	15.43	51	28	5.47	28	69	13.77	50	9.98	19	3.79
Overstress	36	7.03	33	3	0.59	3	32	6.39	31	6.19	1	0.20
Crashes/Strikes	2	0.39	2	0	0	0	16	3.19	2	0.40	14	2.79
Error	6	1.18	3	3	0.59	3	5	1.00	3	0.60	2	0.40
No Valid Reason	16	3.12	16	0	0	0	23	4.59	23	4.59	0	0
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Time Change	25	4.88	25	0	0	0	37	7.38	35	6.99	2	0.40
Other	14	2.74	14	0	0	0	6	1.20	6	1.19	0	0
TOTALS	512	100.00%	457	55	10.72	55	501	100.00%	430	85.84	71	14.16

* Percentages Based Upon A Total Of 512 Forward Blades

+ Percentages Based Upon A Total of 501 Aft Blades

CH-47B/C Forward and Aft Blades Means Analysis

A series of evaluations of the CH-47B/C rotor blades for their average removal characteristics as based upon frequency of blade removal was accomplished. These calculations of the various removal means followed the approach outlined on pages 20 and 21. Results are given in blade hours.

Tables XXI, XXII and XXIII list the means determined for the major discrepant reasons for removal of the CH-47B/C forward rotor blades. Tables XXIV, XXV and XXVI list similar determinations accomplished for the CH-47B/C aft rotor blades.

Table XXVII presents a summary of the results of these analyses for both CH-47B/C forward and aft blades. This summary may be compared to the CH-47A blade summary shown by Table XVII, on page 40.

REASONS FOR REMOVAL	REPAIRED BLADES			SCRAPPED BLADES			TOTAL BLADES		
	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Fwd. Bld. Flight Hours	MTBR _F	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Fwd. Bld. Flight Hours	MTBR _F	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Fwd. Bld. Flight Hours	MTBR _F
Inherent Discrep.	151	↑	5,922	5	↑	178,867	156	↑	5,733
Deterioration	2	↑	447,169	--	↑	--	2	↑	447,169
Unbonded	64	↑	13,974	1	↑	894,339	65	↑	13,759
Excessive Vibration	5	↑	178,867	--	↑	--	5	↑	178,867
Erosion/Wear	11	894,339	81,304	1	894,339	894,339	12	894,339	74,528
Corroded	37	↑	24,171	1	↑	894,339	38	↑	23,535
Delamination	16	↑	55,896	1	↑	894,339	17	↑	52,603
Cracked	12	↑	74,528	1	↑	894,339	13	↑	68,795
Fretted	1	↑	894,339	--	↑	--	1	↑	894,339
Imbalance	3	↑	298,113	--	↑	--	3	↑	298,113
Externally-Caused Discrep.	248	↑	3,606	47	↑	19,028	295	↑	3,022
Foreign Object Damage	162	↑	5,520	16	↑	55,896	178	↑	5,024
Combat Damage	51	894,339	17,536	28	894,339	31,941	79	894,339	11,321
Overstressed	33	↑	27,101	3	↑	298,113	36	↑	24,443
Crashes/Strikes	2	↑	447,169	--	↑	--	2	↑	447,169
No Valid Removal Reason	16	894,339	55,896	--	--	--	16	894,339	55,896
Error *	3	894,339	298,113	3	894,339	298,113	6	894,339	149,056
Scheduled Removals	39	↑	22,932	--	--	--	39	↑	22,932
Time Change	25	894,339	35,774	--	--	--	25	894,339	35,774
Other	14	↑	63,881	--	--	--	14	↑	63,881
All Causes	457	894,339	1,957	55	894,339	16,260	512	894,339	1,747

* Manufacturing/shipping/handling error including inadequate field repair

TABLE XXII. MEAN-TIME-TO-REMOVAL - FORWARD BLADES - CH-47 B/C

REASONS FOR REMOVAL	REPAIRED BLADES			SCRAPPED BLADES			TOTAL BLADES		
	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Fwd.Bld. Flight Hours	MTTR _F	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Fwd. Bld. Flight Hours	MTTR _F	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Fwd.Bld. Flight Hours	MTTR _F
Inherent Discrep.	151	63,336	419	5	2,186	437	156	65,522	420
Deterioration	2	999	499	--	--	--	2	999	499
Unbonded	54	23,923	374	1	445	445	65	24,368	375
Excessive Vibration	5	1,852	370	--	--	--	5	1,852	370
Erosion/Wear	11	6,038	549	1	221	221	12	6,259	522
Corroded	37	18,431	498	1	835	835	38	19,266	507
Delamination	16	5,941	371	1	349	349	17	6,290	370
Cracked	12	4,739	395	1	336	336	13	5,075	390
Fretted	1	500	500	--	--	--	1	500	500
Imbalance	3	913	304	--	--	--	3	913	304
Externally-Caused Discrep.	248	93,926	379	47	18,423	392	295	112,349	381
Foreign Object Damage	162	63,888	394	16	8,692	543	178	72,580	408
Combat Damage	51	19,497	382	28	9,220	329	79	28,717	364
Overstressed	33	9,346	283	3	511	170	36	9,857	274
Crashes/Strikes	2	1,195	597	--	--	--	2	1,195	597
No Valid Removal Reason	16	4,916	307	--	--	--	16	4,916	307
Error*	3	262	87	3	1,874	624	6	2,136	356
Scheduled Removals	39	17,852	458	--	--	--	39	17,852	458
Time Change	25	13,396	536	--	--	--	25	13,396	536
Other	14	4,456	318	--	--	--	14	4,456	318
All Causes	457	180,292	395	55	22,483	409	512	202,775	396

* Manufacturing/shipping/handling error including inadequate field repair.

TABLE XXIII. MEAN-TIME-BETWEEN-UNSCHEDULED-REMOVALS - FORWARD BLADES - CH-47 B/C

REASONS FOR REMOVAL	REPAIRED BLADES			SCRAPPED BLADES			TOTAL BLADES		
	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Fwd. Bld. Flight Hours	MTBUR _F	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Fwd. Bld. Flight Hours	MTBUR _F	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Fwd. Bld. Flight Hours	MTBUR _F
Inherent Discrep.	151		5,922	5		178,867	156		5,733
Deterioration	2		447,169	--		--	2		447,169
Unbonded	64		13,974	1		894,339	65		13,759
Excessive Vibration	5		178,867	--		--	5		178,867
Erosion/Wear	11	894,339	81,304	1	894,339	894,339	12	894,339	74,528
Corroded	37		24,171	1		894,339	38		23,535
Delamination	16		55,896	1		894,339	17		52,608
Cracked	12		74,528	1		894,339	13		68,795
Fretted	1		894,339	--		--	1		894,339
Imbalance	3		298,113	--		--	3		298,113
Externally-Caused Discrep.	248		3,606	47		19,028	295		3,032
Foreign Object Damage	162	894,339	5,520	16	894,339	55,896	178	894,339	5,024
Combat Damage	51		17,536	28		31,941	79		11,321
Overstressed	33		27,101	3		298,113	36		24,843
Crashes/Strikes	2		447,169	--		--	2		447,169
No Valid Removal Reason	16	894,339	55,896	--	--	--	16	894,339	55,896
Error *	3	894,339	298,113	3	894,339	298,113	6	894,339	149,056
All Causes	418	894,339	2,140	55	894,339	16,260	473	894,339	1,891

* Manufacturing/shipping/maintenance/handling error including inadequate field repair.

Discrepancy Locations Versus Types of Discrepancies

Data included herein has been based upon 'Reasons for Removal' only.

This investigation simplified the amount of data handled by confining the results to major discrepancy locations versus types of inherent discrepancies and to externally-caused discrepancies only.

Figures 20 and 21 demonstrate the results of analyses for inherent and externally-caused discrepancies of the forward blades.

Figures 22 and 23 demonstrate the results of analyses for inherent and externally-caused discrepancies of the aft blades.

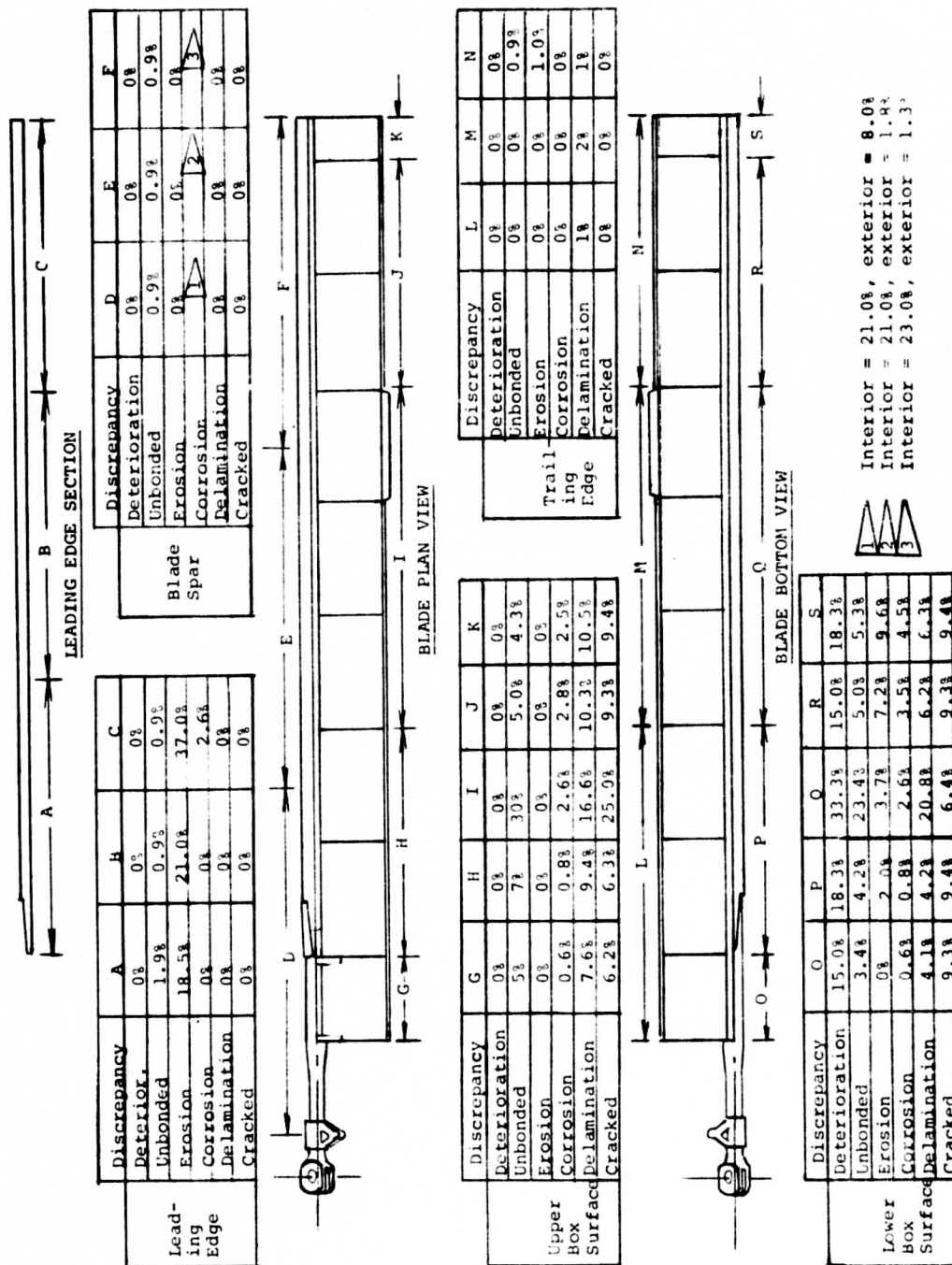


FIGURE 20. INHERENT DISCREPANCY LOCATIONS - FORWARD BLADES - CH-47B/C.

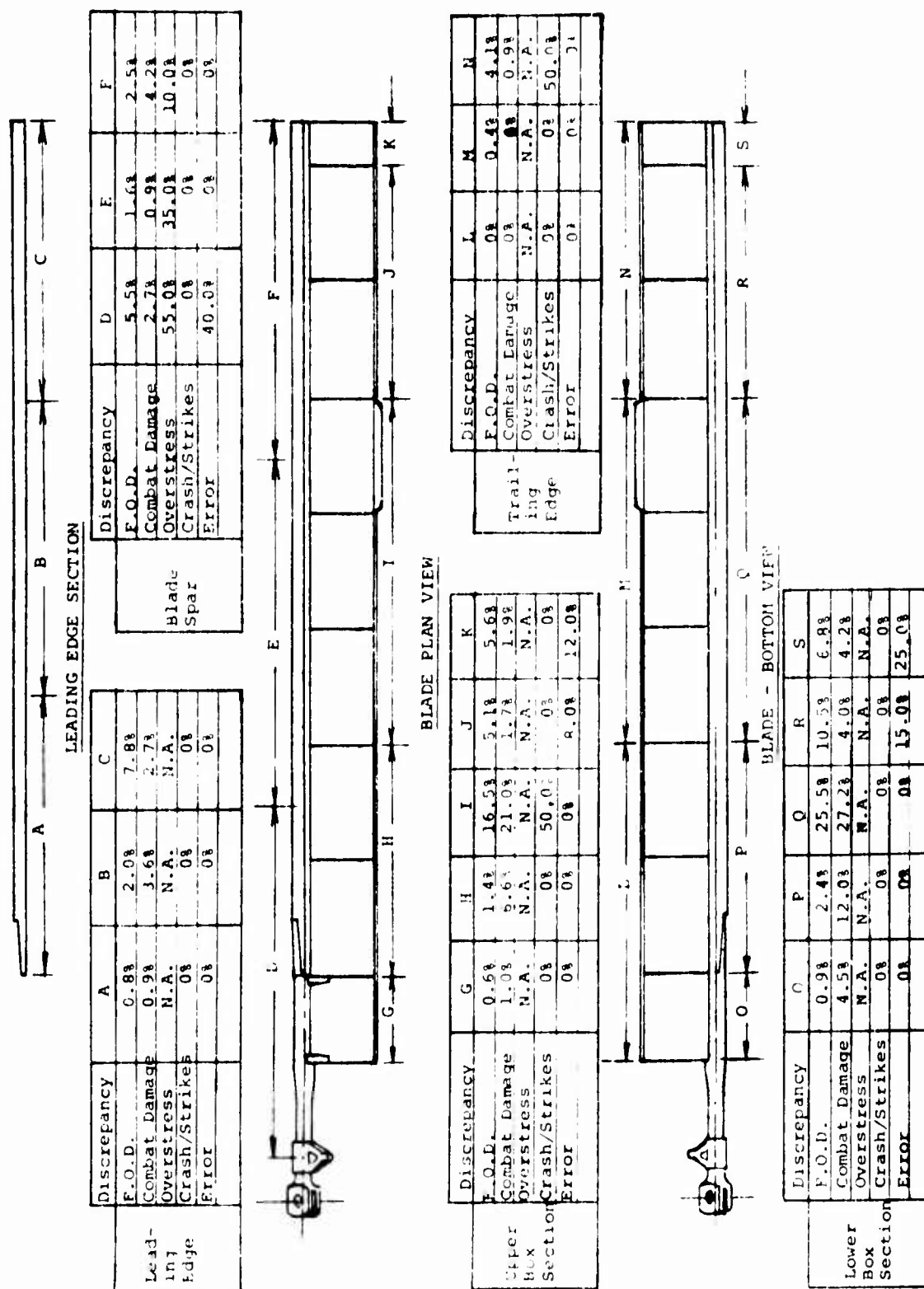


FIGURE 21. EXTERNALLY-CAUSED DISCREPANCY LOCATIONS - FORWARD BLADES - CH-47 R/C.

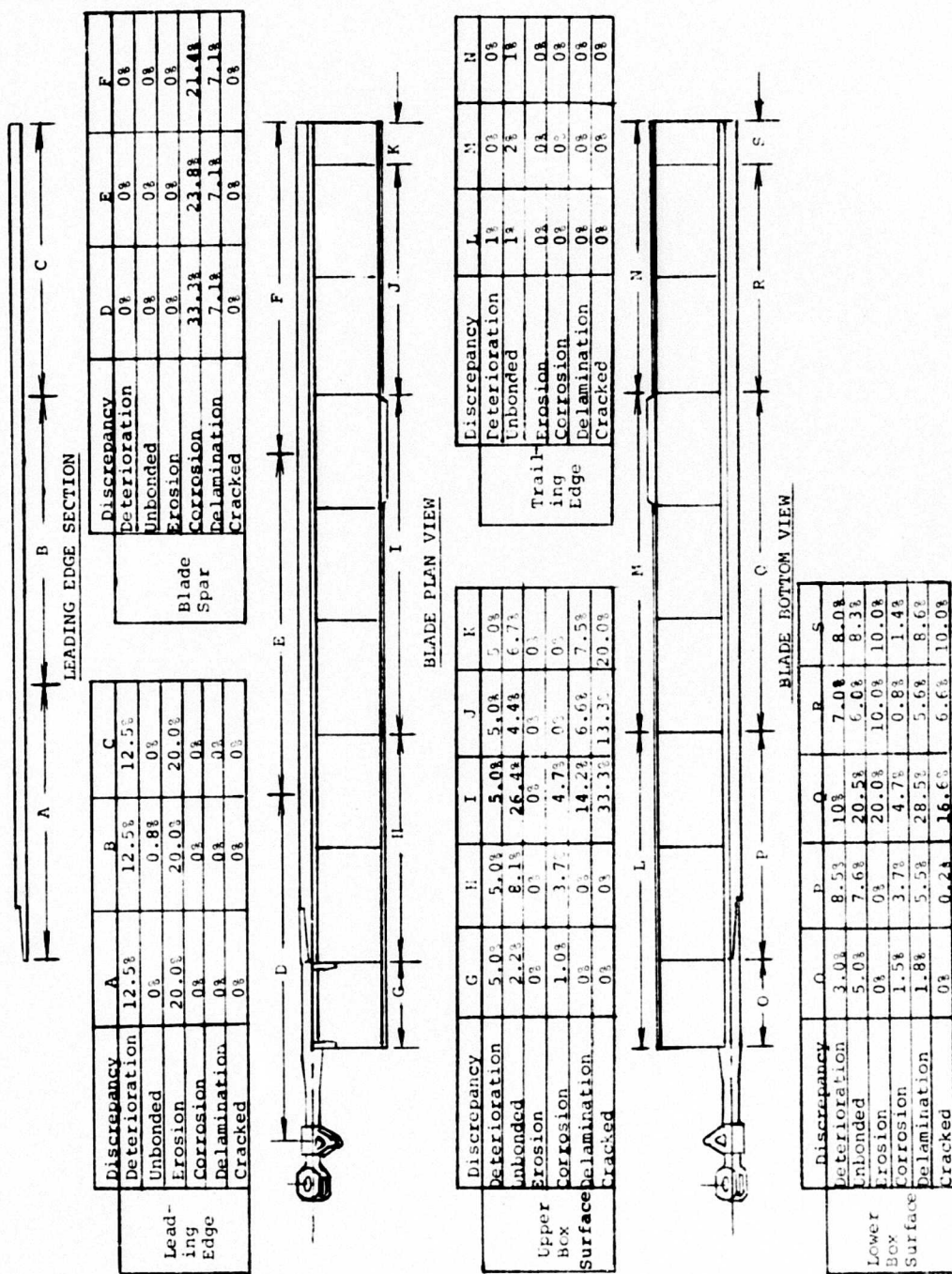


FIGURE 22. INHERENT DISCREPANCY LOCATIONS - AFT BLADES - CH-47 B/C.

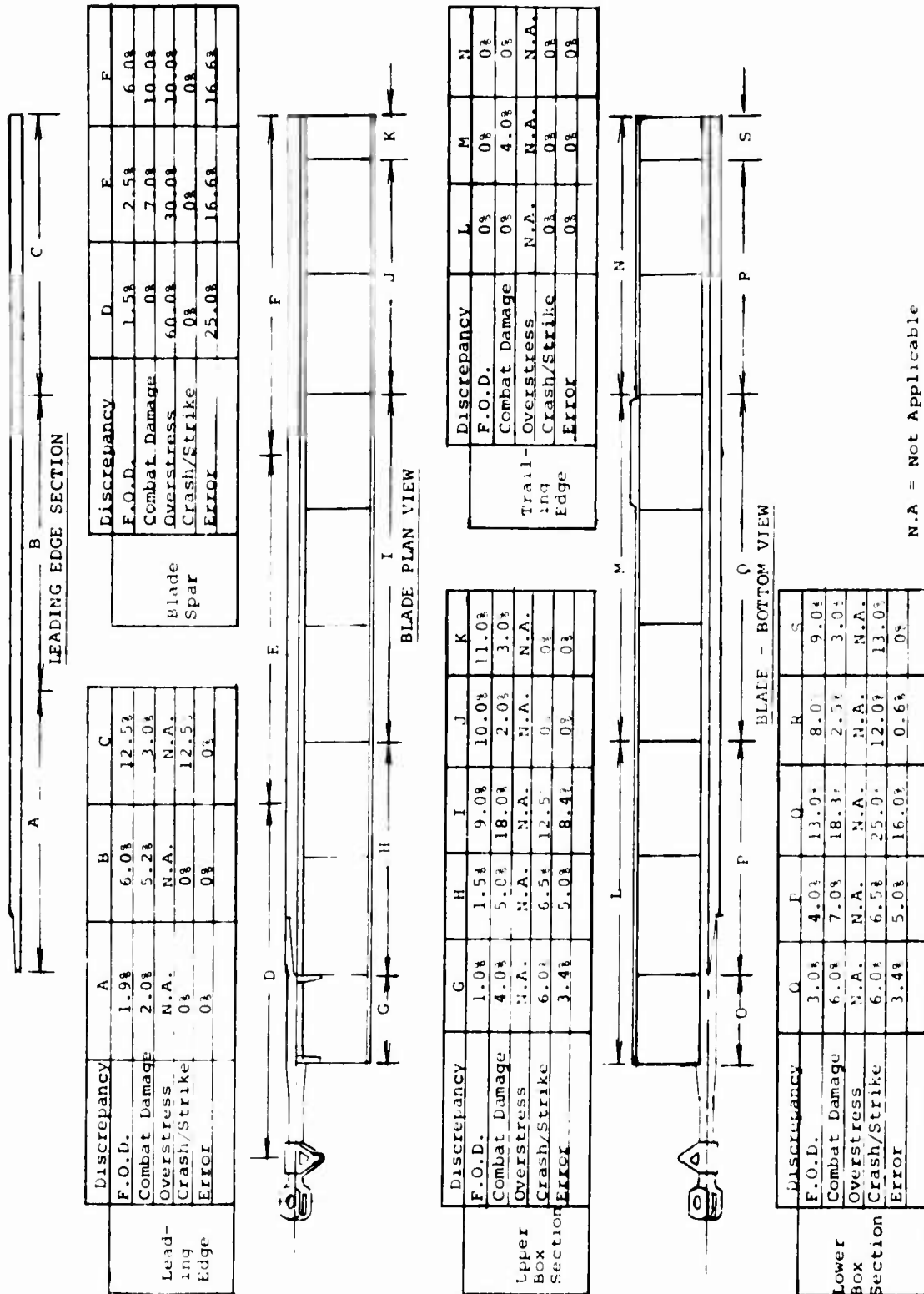


Figure 23. EXTERNALLY-CAUSED DISCREPANCY LOCATIONS - AFT BLADES - CH-47B/C.

TABLE XXIV. MEAN-TIME-BETWEEN-REMOVALS - AFT BLADES - CH-47 B/C

REASONS FOR REMOVALS	REPAIRED BLADES			SCRAPPED BLADES			TOTAL BLADES		
	Qty. of Blades Removed	Aft Bld. Flight Hours	MTBFA	Qty. of Blades Removed	Aft Bld. Flight Hours	MTBFA	Qty. of Blades Removed	Aft Bld. Flight Hours	MTBFA
Inherent Discrep.	124	7,128	7,128	4	220,956	220,956	128	6,905	6,905
Deterioration	4	220,956	220,956	--	--	--	4	220,956	220,956
Unbonded	79	11,188	11,188	--	--	--	79	11,188	11,188
Excessive Vibration	4	220,956	220,956	--	--	--	4	220,956	220,956
Erosion/Wear	2	883,824	441,912	1	883,824	883,824	3	883,824	883,824
Corroded	19	46,517	46,517	3	294,608	294,608	22	40,174	40,174
Delamination	10	88,382	88,382	--	--	--	10	88,382	88,382
Cracked	5	176,765	176,765	--	--	--	5	176,765	176,765
Fretted	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Imbalance	1	883,824	883,824	--	--	--	1	883,824	883,824
Externally-Caused Discrep.	239	3,698	3,698	63	14,029	14,029	302	2,927	2,927
Foreign Object Damage	156	5,666	5,666	29	30,477	30,477	185	4,777	4,777
Combat Damage	50	883,824	17,676	19	883,824	883,824	69	883,824	12,809
Overstressed	31	28,510	28,510	1	883,824	883,824	32	27,619	27,619
Crashes/Strikes	2	441,912	441,912	14	63,130	63,130	16	32,234	32,234
No Valid Removal Reason	23	883,824	38,427	--	--	--	23	883,824	38,427
Error *	3	883,824	294,608	2	883,824	441,912	5	883,824	176,765
Scheduled Removals	41	21,557	21,557	2	883,824	441,912	43	20,552	20,552
Time Change	35	883,824	25,252	2	883,824	441,912	37	883,824	23,887
Other	6	147,304	147,304	--	--	--	6	147,304	147,304
All Causes	430	883,824	2,055	71	883,824	12,448	501	883,824	1,764

* Manufacturing/shipping/handling error including inadequate field repair

TABLE XXV. MEAN-TIME-TO-REMOVAL - AFT BLADES - CH-47 B/C

REASONS FOR REMOVAL	REPAIRED BLADES			SCRAPPED BLADES			TOTAL BLADES		
	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Aft Bld. Flight Hours	MTTR ^a	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Aft Bld. Flight Hours	MTTR ^a	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Aft Bld. Flight Hours	MTTR ^a
Inherent Discrep.	124	50,713	409	4	2,401	600	128	53,114	415
Deterioration	4	1,421	355	--	--	--	4	1,421	355
Unbonded	79	30,954	392	--	--	--	79	30,954	392
Excessive Vibration	4	1,863	466	--	--	--	4	1,863	466
Erosion/Wear	2	366	183	1	391	391	3	757	252
Corroded	19	11,428	601	3	2,010	670	22	13,438	611
Delamination	10	2,230	223	--	--	--	10	2,230	223
Cracked	5	1,909	381	--	--	--	5	1,909	381
Fretted	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Imbalance	1	542	542	--	--	--	1	542	542
Externally-Caused Discrep.	239	82,526	345	63	20,876	331	302	103,402	342
Foreign Object Damage	156	59,420	381	29	11,513	397	185	70,933	383
Combat Damage	50	16,092	322	19	8,223	433	69	24,315	352
Overstressed	31	6,609	213	1	316	316	32	6,425	316
Crashes/Strikes	2	405	202	14	824	59	16	1,229	77
No Valid Removal Reason	23	7,474	325	--	--	--	23	7,474	325
Error *	3	244	81	2	554	277	5	798	160
Scheduled Removals	41	18,801	459	2	1,478	739	43	20,279	472
Time Change	35	15,964	456	2	1,478	739	37	17,442	471
Other	6	2,837	473	--	--	--	6	2,837	473
All Causes	430	159,758	372	71	25,309	356	501	185,067	369

^a Manufacturing/shipping/handling error including inadequate field repair

TABLE XXVI. MEAN-TIME-BETWEEN-UNSCHEDULED-REMOVALS - AFT BLADES - CH-47 B/C										
REASONS FOR REMOVAL	REPAIRED BLADES			SCRAPPED BLADES			TOTAL BLADES			MTBUR _A
	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Aft Bld. Flight Hours	MTBUR _A	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Aft Bld. Flight Hours	MTBUR _A	Qty. of Blades Removed	Total Aft Bld. Flight Hours	MTBUR _A	
Inherent Discrep.	124	7,128	220,956	4	220,956	220,956	128	883,824	6,905	220,956
Deterioration	4	220,956	11,188	--	--	--	4	--	11,188	220,956
Unbonded	79	220,956	220,956	--	--	--	79	883,824	294,608	220,956
Excessive Vibration	4	883,824	441,912	1	883,824	883,824	4	--	40,174	88,382
Erosion/Wear	2	46,517	46,517	3	88,382	88,382	5	--	176,765	--
Corroded	19	88,382	88,382	--	--	--	19	--	88,382	--
Delamination	10	176,765	176,765	--	--	--	10	--	88,382	--
Cracked	5	--	--	--	--	--	5	--	88,382	--
Fretted	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	88,382	--
Imbalance	1	883,824	883,824	--	--	--	1	--	883,824	--
Externally-Caused Discrep.	239	3,698	3,698	63	14,029	14,029	102	883,824	2,927	2,927
Foreign Object Damage	156	5,666	5,666	29	30,477	30,477	185	883,824	4,777	4,777
Combat Damage	50	17,676	17,676	19	46,517	46,517	69	883,824	12,809	12,809
Overstressed	31	28,510	28,510	1	883,824	883,824	32	883,824	27,619	27,619
Crashes/Strikes	2	441,912	441,912	14	63,130	63,130	16	--	55,239	55,239
No Valid Removal Reason	23	883,824	883,824	--	--	--	23	883,824	38,427	38,427
Error *	3	883,824	883,824	2	883,824	883,824	5	883,824	176,765	176,765
All Causes	389	883,824	883,824	69	12,809	12,809	458	883,824	1,910	1,910

* Manufacturing/shipping/handling error including inadequate field repair

TABLE XXVII. SUMMARY OF CH-47B/C FORWARD AND AFT BLADE MEANS

BLADE		COMBINED VALUES	INHEPENT DISCREPANCY	EXTERNALLY CAUSED DISCREPANCY	ERROR CAUSED DISCREPANCY	SCHEDULED REMOVALS	NO VALID REMOVAL REASON
FORWARD BLADES	MTBR _F	Repaired 1,957 Scrapped 16,970 Total 1,747	5,922 178,867 5,733	3,606 19,038 3,032	298,113 298,113 149,056	22,932 -- 22,932	55,896 -- 55,896
	MTTR _F	Repaired 390 Scrapped 409 Total 396	419 437 420	379 392 381	87 624 356	458 -- 458	307 -- 307
	MTBUR _F	Repaired 2,140 Scrapped 16,070 Total 1,891	5,922 178,867 5,733	3,606 19,028 3,032	298,113 298,113 149,056	N.A. N.A. N.A.	55,896 -- 55,896
	MTBR _A	Repaired 2,055 Scrapped 12,448 Total 1,764	7,128 220,956 6,905	3,698 14,029 2,927	294,608 441,912 176,765	21,557 441,912 20,554	38,427 -- 38,427
	MTTR _A	Repaired 372 Scrapped 356 Total 369	409 600 415	345 331 342	81 277 160	459 739 472	325 -- 325
	MTBUR _A	Repaired 2,272 Scrapped 12,809 Total 1,930	7,128 220,956 6,905	3,698 14,029 2,927	294,608 441,912 176,765	N.A. N.A. N.A.	38,427 -- 38,427

N.A. - Not Applicable
 MTBR - Mean-Time-Between Removals
 MTTR - Mean-Time-To-Removal
 MTBUR - Mean-Time-Between-Unscheduled-Removals

CH-47 BLADE SCRAPPAGE ANALYSES

This section of the report includes analyses of the scrappage of the forward and aft rotor blades for both CH-47A and CH-47B/C helicopters.

Analyses concern the following:

- a. Major percentages of blades scrapped
- b. Quantity of blades scrapped vs. actual reasons for scrappage
- c. Blade teardown experience
- d. Mean-Time-to-Scrappage

The following helicopter blade scrappage analyses have been based upon the known reasons for blade scrappage, not upon reasons for blade removal. Certain blades were removed for reasons other than any known spar damage in the field and returned for inspection and overhaul. Subsequent repair action uncovered spar damage. However, other blades were scrapped, either in the field or immediately upon return inspection without any rework action attempted. In these cases where the reason for scrappage was not given in Boeing-Vertol records, the reason for blade removal was used as the scrappage reason. It may be assumed that reasons for removal may be a good indicator of the reasons for scrappage of blades in the field. Field scrappage reasons and data are not accessible to Boeing-Vertol except through Field Service Representative reports.

Tables XXVIII and XXIX summarize the scrapped blade status for the most frequently occurring causes for scrappage. Table XXVIII concerns the forward blades and Table XXIX concerns the aft blades.

Table XXX, page 77, summarizes the percentages of blade scrappage for CH-47A and CH-47B/C forward and aft blades in terms of reasons for blade scrappage.

TABLE XXVIII. PERCENTAGES OF FORWARD BLADE SCRAPPAGE - CH-47A AND CH-47B/C					
CH-47A FWD BLADES			CH-47B/C FWD BLADES		
SCRAP DISCREPANCY/ REMOVAL CAUSE	QTY. BLADES	PERCENT OF TOTAL*	SCRAP DISCREPANCY/ REMOVAL CAUSE	QTY. BLADES	PERCENT OF TOTAL +
Dented - F.O.D.	54	7.86	Dented - F.O.D.	15	11.91
Overstressed	44	6.40	Dented - Combat Damage	14	11.12
Punctured - Combat Damage	26	3.78	Punctured - Combat Damage	10	7.94
Dented-Combat Damage	20	2.91	Scored - F.O.D.	3	2.38
Minor Damage-Crashes	10	1.46	Dented - Crash Damage	3	2.38
Collapsed-Crashes	8	1.16	Overstressed	3	2.38
Corroded	8	1.16	Punctured - F.O.D.	2	1.59
Punctured - F.O.D.	4	.58	Torn - Combat Damage	1	.79
Retired	4	.58	Torn - Crash Damage	1	.79
Mishandled - Error	3	.44	Shop Error	1	.79
Shop Error	2	.29	Arc Burn - Error	1	.79
Arc Burn - Error	2	.29	Corroded	1	.79
Scheduled Maint.	2	.29	TOTALS:	55	43.65%
Scored - F.O.D.	2	.29			
Spar/Socket-Combat Damage	1	.15			
Bent-Crash Damage	1	.15			
Torn-Crash Damage	1	.15			
Cracked	1	.15			
Unbonded	1	.15			
TOTALS:	194	28.24%			

* Based upon 687 CH-47A forward and aft scrapped blades. See Table XXIX.

+ Based upon 126 CH-47B/C forward and aft scrapped blades. See Table XXIX.

TABLE XXIX. PERCENTAGES OF AFT BLADE SCRAPPAGE - CH-47A AND CH-47B/C					
CH-47A AFT BLADES			CH-47B/C AFT BLADES		
SCRAP DISCREPANCY/ REMOVAL CAUSE	QTY. BLADES	PERCENT OF TOTAL*	SCRAP DISCREPANCY/ REMOVAL CAUSE	QTY. BLADES	PERCENT OF TOTAL+
Overstressed	217	31.59	Dented - F.O.D.	23	18.26
Dented - F.O.D.	93	13.54	Dented - Crash	13	10.32
Scheduled Maint.	44	6.40	Dented - Combat	9	7.14
Punctured - Combat	31	4.51	Dented - Combat	8	6.35
Damage			Punctured-Combat		
Retired	30	4.36	Damage		
Punctured - F.O.D.	15	2.18	Overstressed	4	3.18
Dented-Combat Damage	15	2.18	Punctured-F.O.D.	3	2.38
Corroded	7	1.02	Corroded	3	2.38
Torn-Crash Damage	6	.87	Scored - F.O.D.	2	1.59
Unbonded	6	.87	Mishandled-Error	2	1.59
Broken - F.O.D.	4	.58	Broken - F.O.D.	1	.79
Torn - F.O.D.	4	.58	Scored - Combat	1	.79
Minor Crash Damage	4	.58	Damage		
Bent - F.O.D.	3	.44	Torn-Combat Damage	1	.79
Arc Burn - Error	3	.44	Torn-Crash Damage	1	.79
Cracked	3	.44	TOTALS:	71	56.35%
Scored - F.O.D.	2	.29			
Broken-Combat Damage	2	.29			
Bent-Crash Damage	1	.15			
Collapsed-Crash	1	.15			
Damage					
Mishandled-Error	1	.15			
Shop Error	1	.15			
TOTALS:	493	71.76%			
* Based upon 687 CH-47A forward and aft scrapped blades. See Table XXVIII.					
+ Based upon 126 CH-47 B/C forward and aft scrapped blades. See Table XXVIII					

The distribution of the percentage of CH-47B/C forward and aft rotor blades that have been scrapped for known causes, either internal or external, is shown in Figures 24, 25, 26 and 27.

Prior to a decision as to the extent of blade damage (including spar damage), the blades may require either a partial or a complete teardown during their repair in Boeing-Vertol shops. A partial teardown consists of the replacement of all blade boxes, the trailing edge and the trim tab. The complete teardown consists of the replacement of all the blade boxes, the trailing edge, the trim tab, and the nose cap, plus any miscellaneous parts, as required. Figure 28 has been provided to indicate the quantity of blades that required either partial or complete teardown versus those blades found unsatisfactory as a result of teardown and therefore scrapped.

Calculation results of mean-time-between-scrappage of forward and aft blades for the CH-47A blades are shown in Table XXXI and for the CH-47B/C in Table XXXII. Table XXXIII summarizes all scrapped blade means.

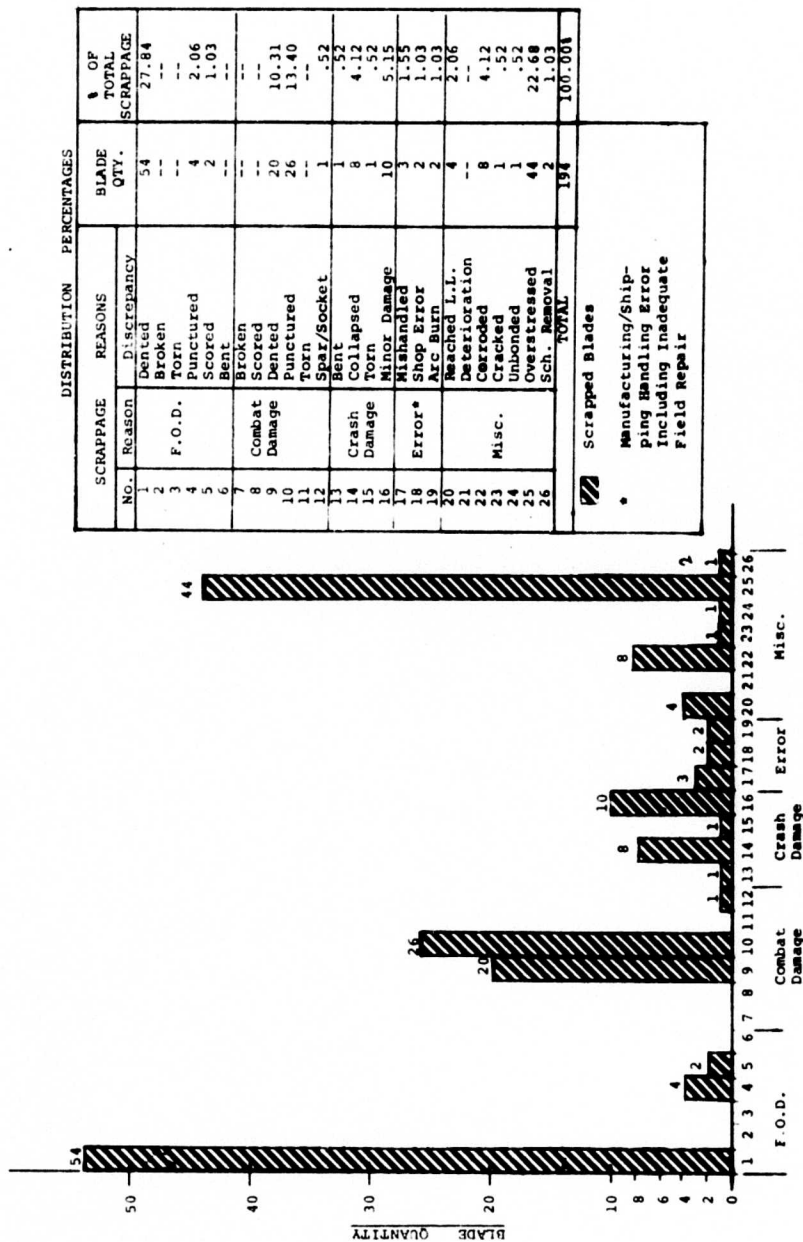


FIGURE 24. SCRAPAGE - FORWARD BLADES - CH-47A.

DISTRIBUTION PERCENTAGE				
SCRAPPAGE REASONS		BLADE QTY.	% OF TOTAL SCRAPPAGE	
NO.	REASON			
1	Dented	93	18.86	
2	Broken	4	0.81	
3	F.O.D.	4	0.81	
4	Torn	15	3.04	
5	Punctured	2	0.41	
6	Scored	3	0.61	
7	Bent	2	0.41	
8	Broken	0	0	
9	Scored	15	3.04	
10	Dented	31	6.28	
11	Combat Damage	0	0	
12	Torn	0	0	
13	Spar/Socket	1	0.22	
14	Bent	1	0.22	
15	Crash/Strikes	6	1.22	
16	Collapsed	4	0.81	
17	Minor Damage	1	0.22	
18	Mishandled	1	0.22	
19	Shop Error	3	0.61	
20	Arc Burn	30	6.09	
21	Reached LL	0	0	
22	Deterioration	7	1.42	
23	Corroded	3	0.61	
24	Cracked	6	1.22	
25	Unbonded	217	44.02	
26	Overstressed	44	8.92	
	Sen. Removal			
	TOTAL	493	100.00%	

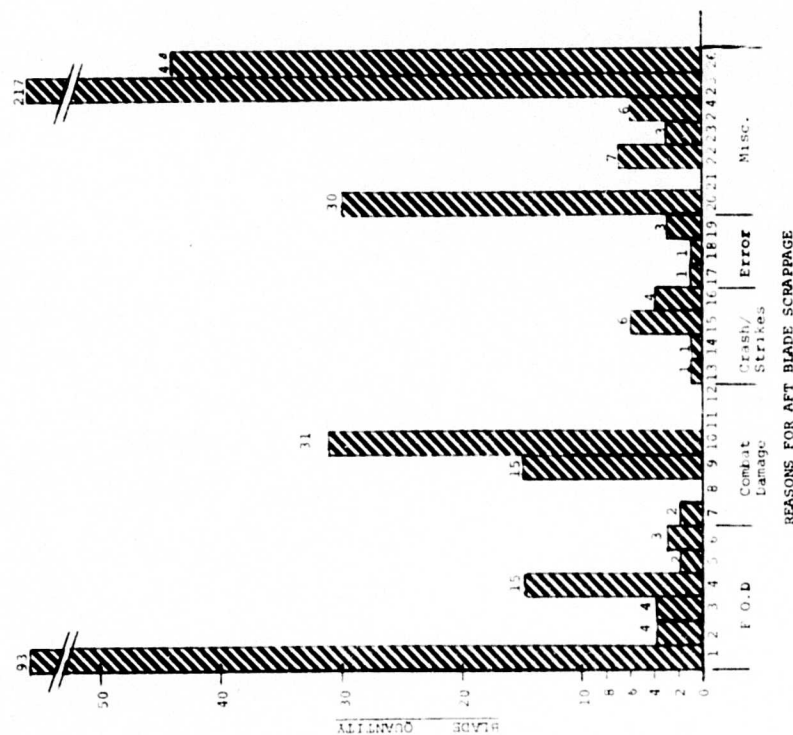


FIGURE 25. SCRAPPAGE - AFT BLADES - CH-47A.

DISTRIBUTION PERCENTAGES				
SCRAPPAGE REASON		Blade Qty.	% of Total Scrappage	
No.	Reason			
1	Dented	15	27.3	
2	F.O.L.	2	3.6	
3	Punctured	3	5.5	
4	Scored	14	25.4	
5	Combat Damage	10	18.2	
6	Punctured	1	1.8	
7	Torn	1	1.8	
8	Crash Damage	3	5.5	
9	Dented	1	1.8	
10	Shop Error	1	1.8	
11	Arc Burn	1	1.8	
12	Corroded	1	1.8	
13	Misc.	3	5.5	
TOTALS		55	100.0%	

Scrapped Blades

- Manufacturing/Shipping/Handling Error including Inadequate Field Repair

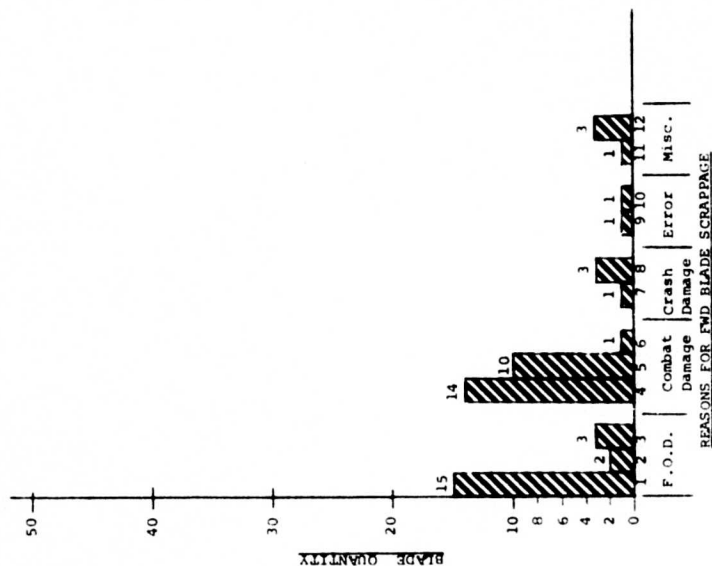



FIGURE 26. SCRAPPAGE - FORWARD BLADES - CH-47B/C.

DISTRIBUTION PERCENTAGES				
SCRAPPAGE REASON		Blade Qty.	% of Total Scrapage	
No.	Reason			
1	Dented	23	32.4	
2	Broken	1	1.4	
3	F.O.D.	3	4.2	
4	Punctured	2	2.8	
5	Scored	1	1.4	
6	Combat	9	12.7	
7	Damage	8	11.3	
8	Punctured	1	1.4	
9	Crash	13	18.3	
10	Damage	1	1.4	
11	Error	2	2.8	
12	Misc.	3	4.2	
13	Overstressed	4	5.6	
TOTALS		71	100.0%	

 Scrapped Blades
 * Manufacturing/Shipping/
 Handling Error Including
 Inadequate Field Repair

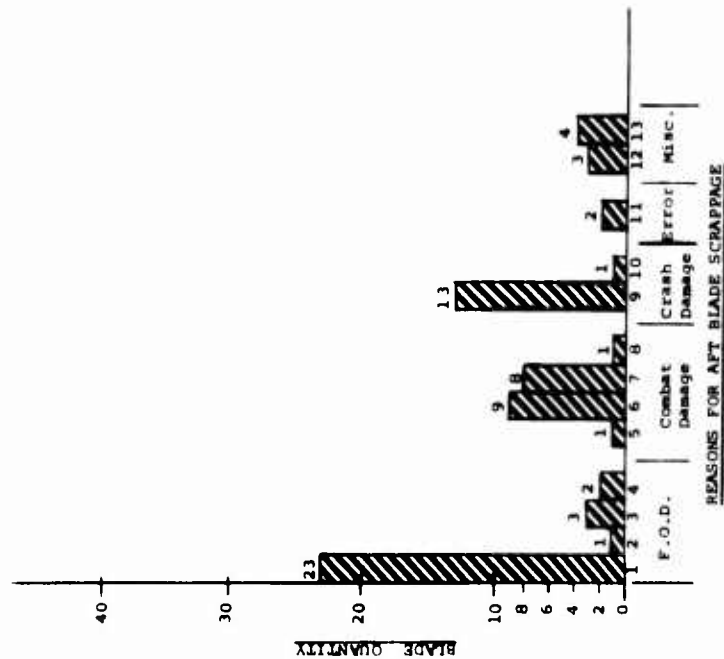


FIGURE 27. SCRAPPAGE - APT BLADES - CH-47B/C.

TABLE XXX. SUMMARY OF PERCENTAGES OF BLADE SCRAPPAGE - CH-47A AND CH-47B/C FORWARD AND AFT BLADES					
REASONS FOR SCRAP	FORWARD SCRAPPED BLADES		AFT SCRAPPED BLADES		
	Quantity	Percentage	Quantity	Percentage	
<u>Foreign Object Damage</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>30.9</u>	<u>121</u>	<u>24.5</u>	
Dented	54	27.8	93	18.9	
Broken			4	0.8	
Torn	4	2.1	4	0.8	
Punctured			15	3.0	
Scored	2	1.0	2	0.4	
Bent			3	0.6	
<u>Combat Damage</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>24.2</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>9.7</u>	
Broken			2	0.4	
Scored					
Dented	20	10.3	15	3.0	
Punctured	26	13.4	31	6.4	
Torn					
Spar/Socket	1	0.5			
<u>Crash/Strikes</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>10.3</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>2.4</u>	
Bent	1	0.5	1	0.2	
Collapsed	8	4.1	1	0.2	
Torn	1	0.5	6	1.2	
Minor Damage	10	5.2	4	0.8	
Error	7	3.6	5	1.0	
Mishandled	3	1.6	1	0.2	
Shop Error	2	1.0	1	0.2	
Arc Burn	2	1.0	3	0.6	
<u>Miscellaneous</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>30.9</u>	<u>307</u>	<u>62.3</u>	
Reached Life Limit	4	2.1	30	6.1	
Deterioration					
Corroded	8	4.1	7	1.4	
Cracked	1	0.5	3	0.6	
Unbonded	1	0.5	6	1.2	
Overstressed	44	22.7	217	44.0	
Scheduled Removal	2	1.0	44	8.9	
<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>194</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>493</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	

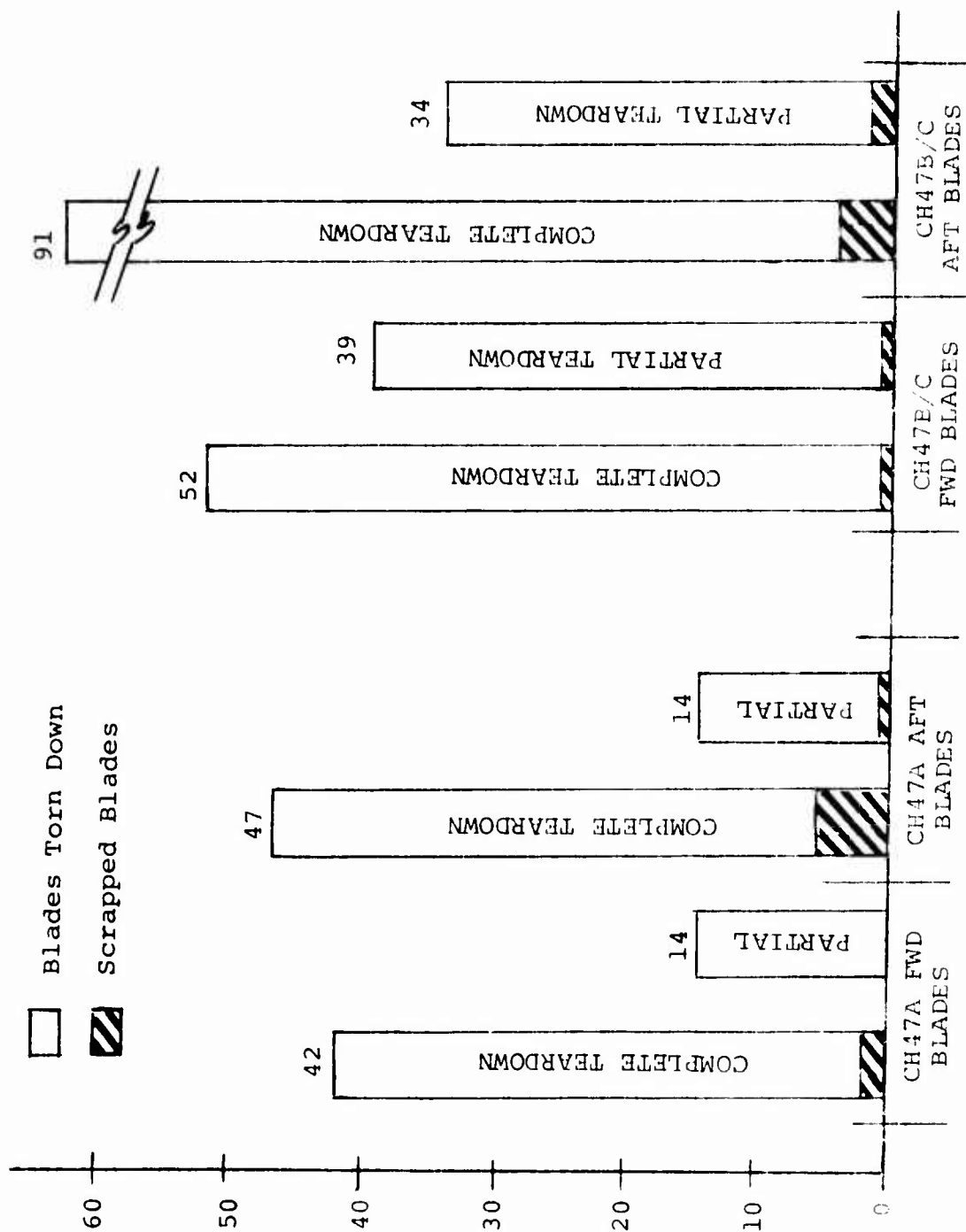


FIGURE 28. BLADE TEARDOWN EXPERIENCE.

TABLE XXXI. MEAN-TIME-BETWEEN-SCRAPPAGE - FORWARD AND AFT SCRAPPED BLADES - CH-47A

REASONS FOR SCRAP	FWD. SCRAPPED BLADES			AFT SCRAPPED BLADES		
	Qty. of Blades Scrapped	Fwd. Blade Flt. Hours	MTBS _F	Qty. of Blades Scrapped	Aft Blade Flt. Hours	MTBS _F
<u>Foreign Object Damage</u>						
Dented	60	↑	32,510	121	↑	16,121
Broken	54	↑	36,122	93	↑	20,974
Torn		1,950,618		4	1,950,618	487,655
Punctured	4		487,655	4		487,655
Scored	2		975,309	15		130,041
Bent				2		975,309
				3		650,206
<u>Combat Damage</u>	47	↑	41,503	48	↑	40,638
Broken				2		975,309
Scored						
Dented	20	1,950,618	97,531	15	1,950,618	130,041
Punctured	26		75,023	31		62,923
Torn						
Spar/Socket	1	↑	1,950,618		↑	
<u>Crash/Strikes</u>	20	↑	97,531	12	↑	162,552
Bent	1		1,950,618	1		1,950,618
Collapsed	8	1,950,618	243,828	1	1,950,618	1,950,618
Torn	1		1,950,618	6		325,103
Minor Damage	10	↑	195,062	4	↑	487,655
<u>Error</u>	7	↑	278,655	5	↑	190,124
Mishandled	3	1,950,618	650,206	1	1,950,618	1,950,618
Shop Error	2		975,309	1		1,950,618
Arc Burn	2	↑	975,309	3	↑	650,206
<u>Miscellaneous</u>	60		32,510	307		6,354
Reached Life Limit	4	1,950,618	487,655	30	1,950,618	65,021
Deterioration						
Corroded	8		243,828	7		278,660
Cracked	1		1,950,618	3		650,206
Unbonded	1		1,950,618	6		325,103
Overstressed	44		44,332	217		8,989
Scheduled Removal	2		975,309	44		44,332
All Causes	194	1,950,618	10,055	493	1,950,618	3,957

* Error occurred During Manufacturing/Shipping/Maintenance or Field Repair

TABLE XXXII. MEAN-TIME-BETWEEN-SCRAPPAGE - FORWARD AND AFT SCRAPPED BLADES - CH-47B/C							
REASONS FOR SCRAP	FWD. SCRAPPED BLADES			AFT SCRAPPED BLADES			
	Qty. of Blades Scrapped	Fwd. Blade Flt. Hours	MTBS _F	Qty. of Blades Scrapped	Aft Blade Flt. Hours	MTBS _A	
<u>Foreign Object Damage</u>							
Dented	20		44,716	29		30,476	
Broken	15	894,339	59,623	23	883,824	38,427	
Punctured	2		447,169	1		883,824	
Scored	3		298,113	3		294,608	
<u>Combat Damage</u>							
Scored	25		35,774	19		441,912	
Dented	14	894,339	63,881	1		46,517	
Punctured	10		89,434	9	883,824	883,824	
Torn	1		894,339	1		98,203	
<u>Crash/Strikes</u>							
Torn	4	894,339	223,585	14		110,478	
Dented	1		894,339	1	883,824	883,824	
Error *	3		298,113	13		67,986	
Mishandled	2		447,169	2		441,912	
Shop Error	1	894,339	894,339		883,824		
Arc Burn	1		894,339				
<u>Miscellaneous</u>							
Corroded	4	894,339	223,585	7		126,260	
Overstressed	1		894,339	3	883,824	294,608	
All Causes	55	894,339	16,261	71	883,824	220,956	
						12,448	

* Error Occurred During Manufacturing/Shipping/Maintenance Or Field Repair

TABLE XXXIII. SUMMARY OF CH-47A, B AND C SCRAPPED BLADE MEANS							
BLADES		ALL CAUSES	FOREIGN OBJECT DAMAGE	COMBAT DAMAGE	CRASHES/ STRIKES	ERROR	MISC.
CH-47A	FORWARD	10,055	32,510	41,503	97,531	278,659	32,150
	AFT	3,957	16,121	40,638	162,552	390,124	6,354
CH-47B	FORWARD	16,261	44,716	35,774	223,585	447,169	223,585
	AFT	12,448	30,476	46,517	63,130	441,912	126,260

COST ANALYSIS

A comparison of the CH-47 rotor blade acquisition cost and the average cost of repaired/reworked rotor blades was made. Included in the total average cost of the repaired/reworked blades is a \$40.00 transportation cost to and from New Cumberland Army Depot (NCAD).

Table XXXVI of Appendix I identifies the various CH-47A (114R1002) and CH-47B/C (114R1502) blades by part number and location. The table shows a selected quantity of blades, transportation costs to and from NCAD, the average repair/rework costs per blade, and the acquisition costs per blade.

The cost comparison of the repair/rework average costs per blade versus the acquisition cost of a new blade is given by this table in percentages.

TABLE XXXIII. SUMMARY OF CH-47A, B AND C SCRAPPED BLADE MEANS							
BLADES		ALL CAUSES	FOREIGN OBJECT DAMAGE	COMBAT DAMAGE	CRASHES/ STRIKES	ERROR	MISC.
CH-47A	FORWARD	10,055	32,510	41,503	97,531	278,659	32,150
	AFT	3,957	16,121	40,638	162,552	390,124	6,354
CH-47B	FORWARD	16,261	44,716	35,774	223,585	447,169	223,585
	AFT	12,448	30,476	46,517	63,130	441,912	126,260

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Removal summaries for all CH-47A blades are given by Table XXXIV and for all CH-47 B/C blades by Table XXXV. As a result of review of these tables and the entire study, the following conclusions and recommendations are made:

1. Existing field repair techniques, criteria and/or practices for bonded rotor blades may be inadequate. The detailed data used for this study can be utilized to determine where the inadequacies occur. Recommendations for cost-effective improvements to repair techniques, equipment, procedures and personnel training can be made on the basis of these determinations.
2. Trend curves showing the rate of improvement of mean-time parameters for early CH-47A blades through the latest CH-47B/C blades can be derived from the data bank used for this study. Design recommendations based on information extracted and analyzed from the present data bank could lead to improved blade configurations.
3. This analysis indicates that returned blades intended for repair/overhaul are being retired or scrapped at periods somewhat less than published life limits. This requires a consideration of acquisition costs in comparison to repair costs and the life remaining in the blade. However, at present, a definitive cost/break-even scale is not available to guide this early retirement practice. Data extracted for this study can be utilized to develop an optimum life limit/repair costs scale for aiding the decision to retire late-life blades.
4. The quantity of blades needed to provide a representative sample for meaningful analyses is presently unknown. The CH-47A blade data should be analyzed in smaller groups by manufacturing date and compared to the total results to determine the number required for a representative sample. The CH-47B/C blade analysis should be continued until a representative sample is completed.
5. To provide a calendar year analysis of blade discrepancies, the present data should be related to blade manufacturing and repair dates and a yearly updating of the overhaul/repair data should be performed.

TABLE XXXIV. REMOVAL SUMMARY DISTRIBUTION - ALL DISCREPANCIES - CH-47A REPAIRED AND SCRAPPED BLADES

	REMOVAL REASON	Fwd Motor Blades		Aft Motor Blades		All Blades	
		Total Blades	% of Total	Total Blades	% of Total	Total Blades	% of Total
INHERENT DISCREPANCIES	Loose/Missing	14	0.66	1	0.04	15	0.34
	Bare Steel	1	0.05	18	0.77	19	0.43
	Eroded	14	0.66	15	0.64	29	0.65
	Rippled	3	0.14	4	0.17	7	0.16
	Water Migrate	1	0.05			1	0.02
	Bulged	6	0.28	2	0.09	8	0.18
	Blistered	1	0.05			1	0.02
	Bond Void	122	5.74	144	6.13	266	5.94
	Beyond Tolerance	8	0.38	1	0.04	9	0.20
	Vibration	8	0.38	2	0.09	10	0.22
	Worn	54	2.54	9	0.38	63	1.40
	Eroded	18	0.85	9	0.38	27	0.60
	Corroded	141	6.63	99	4.22	240	5.36
	Peeling			10	0.42	10	0.22
	Chipped						
	Stained						
	Seized	2	0.09	1	0.04	3	0.07
	Water Migrate						
	Pitted			1	0.04	1	0.02
	Voided	40	1.88	11	0.47	51	1.14
	Crazed	2	0.09	1	0.04	3	0.07
	Cracked	5	0.24	23	0.98	28	0.63
	Split			9	0.81	19	0.43
	Creased	1	0.05	14	0.60	15	0.34
	Crazed	2	0.09			2	0.04
	Cracked	195	9.17	338	14.39	533	11.91
	Split	2	0.09	10	0.42	12	0.27
	Worn			1	0.04	1	0.02
	Fretted	1	0.05			1	0.02
	Tip Rod Loose	36	1.69	4	0.17	40	0.89
	Imbalance	15	0.70	4	0.17	19	0.43
	SUBTOTALS	692	32.55	741	31.54	1433	32.02
EXTERNAL DISCREPANCIES	Dented	384	18.06	343	14.60	727	16.25
	Broken	14	0.66	25	1.06	39	0.87
	Torn	35	1.65	33	1.40	68	1.52
	Punctured	123	5.78	100	4.26	223	4.98
	Scored	54	2.54	48	2.04	102	2.28
	Bent	38	1.79	27	1.15	65	1.45
	Broken	4	0.19	8	0.34	12	0.27
	Scored						
	Dented	34	1.60	34	1.45	68	1.52
	Punctured	106	4.98	98	4.30	204	4.56
	Torn						
	Spar/Socket	2	0.09			2	0.04
	Overstress	111	5.22	279	11.88	390	8.72
	Bent			1	0.04	1	0.02
	Collapsed						
	Fractured	1	0.05			2	0.04
	Dented	1	0.05	2	0.09	3	0.07
	Bent	1	0.05	1	0.04	2	0.07
SCHED. DISCR.	Collapse	8	0.38	1	0.04	9	0.20
	Torn	1	0.05	11	0.47	12	0.27
	Minor Damage	25	1.17	8	0.34	33	0.74
	Manuf/Ship/Handling Error	33	1.55	11	0.47	44	1.00
	No Valid Removal	15	0.70	28	1.19	43	0.96
	Miscellaneous	1	0.05	3	0.13	4	0.09
	SUBTOTALS	991	46.61	1064	45.29	2055	45.92
	MWO Compliance	32	1.50	35	1.49	67	1.50
	No Defect (Sch. Maint.)	276	12.98	399	16.99	675	15.08
	Retired Blades	4	0.19	26	1.11	30	0.67
SCHED. DISCR.	EIR Engineering	2	0.09	2	0.09	4	0.09
	No Defect (Fac. Maint.)	58	2.73	22	0.94	80	1.79
	Miscellaneous	71	3.34	60	2.55	131	2.93
	SUBTOTALS	443	20.83	544	23.17	987	22.06
TOTALS		2126	100.00%	2349	100.00%	4475	100.00%

TABLE XXXV. REMOVAL SUMMARY DISTRIBUTION - ALL DISCREPANCIES - CH-47B/C REPAIRED AND SCRAPPED BLADES

REMOVAL REASON			Forward Rotor Blades		Aft Rotor Blades		All Blades	
			Total Blades	% of Total	Total Blades	% of Total	Total Blades	% of Total
Inherent Discrepancies	Deterior.	Loose/Missing Bare Steel						
		Eroded	1	0.19	2	0.40	3	0.30
	Unbonded	Rippled						
		Water Migr.	1	0.19	2	0.40	3	0.30
	Vibration	Bulged	30	5.86	26	5.19	56	5.53
		Blistered	16	3.13	39	7.78	55	5.43
	Eroded	Bond Void	19	3.71	14	2.79	33	3.26
		Beyond Tolerance			3	0.60	3	0.30
	Corrosion	Vibration	5	0.97	1	0.20	6	0.59
		Worn	5	0.97			5	0.49
	Delam.	Eroded	7	1.37	3	0.60	10	0.99
		Corroded	31	6.05	20	4.00	51	5.03
	Cracked	Peeling						
		Chipped						
	Fretted	Stained						
		Seized						
	Imbalance	Water Migr.	3	0.58	1	0.20	4	0.39
		Pitted	4	0.78	1	0.20	5	0.49
	SUBTOTALS	Voided	3	0.58	9	1.79	12	1.18
		Crazed	6	1.17			6	0.59
External Discrepancies	F.O.D.	Cracked	3	0.58	1	0.20	4	0.39
		Split	5	0.97			5	0.49
	Combat Damage	Crazed	3	0.58			3	0.30
		Cracked	10	1.95	5	1.00	15	1.48
	Over-stress	Split						
		Worn						
	Crashes/Strikes	Fretted	1	0.19			1	0.10
		Tip Rod Loose			1	0.20	1	0.10
	Manuf/Ship/Hand. Error	Imbalance	3	0.58			3	0.30
		SUBTOTALS	156	30.40	128	25.55	284	28.04
	F.O.D.	Dented	118	23.04	114	22.75	232	22.90
		Broken	1	0.19	1	0.20	2	0.20
	Combat Damage	Torn	13	2.54	17	3.39	30	2.96
		Punctured	34	6.64	38	7.58	72	7.11
	Over-stress	Scored	4	0.78	9	1.79	13	1.28
		Bent	8	1.56	6	1.20	14	1.38
	Crashes/Strikes	Broken	1	0.19			1	0.10
		Scored	3	0.58	1	0.20	4	0.39
	Manuf/Ship/Hand. Error	Dented	24	4.69	22	4.34	46	4.54
		Punctured	47	9.18	42	8.18	89	8.78
	No Valid Removal Reason	Torn	2	0.39	4	0.80	6	0.59
		Spar/Socket	2	0.39			2	0.20
	Miscellaneous	Overstress	32	6.26	27	5.39	59	5.82
		Bent	1	0.19			1	0.10
Sch. Disor.	MWO Compliance	Collapsed						
		Fractured						
	No Defect (Sch.Maint.)	Dented	3	0.58	5	1.00	8	0.79
		Bent	1	0.19			1	0.10
	Retired Blades	Collapse			3	0.60	3	0.30
		Torn			13	2.59	14	1.38
	EIR Engineering	Minor Damage	1	0.19			1	0.10
		SUBTOTALS	317	61.86	330	65.87	647	63.86
Sch. Disor.	No Defect (Comp. Rmvl)	Manuf/Ship/Hand. Error	6	1.17	5	1.00	11	1.09
		No Valid Removal Reason	16	3.13	23	4.59	39	3.85
	Miscellaneous	SUBTOTALS	39	7.61	43	8.58	82	8.10
		TOTALS	512	100.00	501	100.00	1013	100.00
	Sch. Disor.	MWO Compliance	2	0.39	13	2.59	15	1.48
		No Defect (Sch.Maint.)	23	4.49	24	4.79	47	4.64
	Retired Blades	Retired Blades						
		EIR Engineering	2	0.39			2	0.20
	No Defect (Comp. Rmvl)	No Defect (Comp. Rmvl)	10	1.95	6	1.20	16	1.58
		Miscellaneous	2	0.39			2	0.20
	SUBTOTALS	SUBTOTALS	39	7.61	43	8.58	82	8.10
		TOTALS	512	100.00	501	100.00	1013	100.00

LITERATURE CITED

- (1) ARMY EQUIPMENT RECORD PROCEDURES, Department of The Army, Technical Manual 38-750; Headquarters, Department of The Army, May 1967; Appendix 1, Codes p. A1-1 through A1-8.
- (2) ORGANIZATIONAL MAINTENANCE MANUAL, ARMY MODEL CH-47A HELICOPTER, Department of The Army Technical Manual-55-1520-209-20-1; Headquarters, Department of The Army, May 1968; Chapter 8, Section II, p. 8-3 through 8-12J.
- (3) ORGANIZATIONAL MAINTENANCE MANUAL, ARMY MODEL CH-47B AND CH-47C HELICOPTER, Department of The Army Technical Manual-55-1520-227-20-1; Headquarters, Department of The Army, August 6, 1970; Chapter 8, Section II, p. 8-3 through 8-11.
- (4) DS, GS AND DEPOT MAINTENANCE MANUAL, ARMY MODEL CH-47A HELICOPTER, Department of The Army, Technical Manual 55-1520-209-35-2; Headquarters, Department of The Army, May 1968, Chapter 18, Section II, p. 18-49 through 18-96C.
- (5) DS, GS, AND DEPOT MAINTENANCE MANUAL, ARMY MODEL CH-47B AND CH-47C HELICOPTER, Department of The Army, Technical Manual 55-1520-227-35-3; Headquarters, Department of The Army, August 6, 1970; Chapter 18, Section II, p. 18-41 through 18-72.
- (6) ORGANIZATIONAL MAINTENANCE MANUAL, ARMY MODEL CH-47A HELICOPTER, Department of The Army Technical Manual 55-1520-209-20-1; Headquarters, Department of The Army, May 1968; Chapter 3, Section IV, p. 3-65 through 3-66.
- (7) ORGANIZATIONAL MAINTENANCE MANUAL, ARMY MODEL CH-47B AND CH-47C HELICOPTER, Department of The Army Technical Manual 55-1520-227-20-1; Headquarters, Department of The Army, August 6, 1970; Chapter 3, Section V, p. 3-82.
- (8) ARMY EQUIPMENT RECORD PROCEDURES, Department of The Army Technical Manual 38-750; Headquarters, Department of The Army, May 1967; Chapter 3, Paragraph 3-8, p. 3-73 through 3-100.

APPENDIX I
COST ANALYSIS

The objective of this cost analysis was to analyze the aircraft support costs for rotor blades to determine the average comparative costs of new versus repair/rework blades.

Table XXXVI is provided to indicate results of this analysis.

TABLE XXXVI. COST COMPARISON - CH-47 NEW VS. REPAIR/REWORK BLADES						
Component	Qty. Sample Blades	Transportation To & From NCAD	Total Aver. Costs Per Blade	Acquisition Cost Per Blade	Repair/Rework vs. New	
Fwd. Rotor Blade (114R1002)	939	\$40.00/Blade	\$2,808	\$13,200	21.3%	
Aft Rotor Blade (114R1002)	919	\$40.00/Blade	\$2,416	\$13,200	18.3%	
Fwd. and Aft Blade Avg. (114R1002)	1,858	\$40.00/Blade	\$2,614	\$13,200	19.8%	
Fwd. Rotor Blade (114R1502)	106	\$40.00/Blade	\$2,175	\$13,800	15.8%	
Aft Rotor Blade (114R1502)	60	\$40.00/Blade	\$2,413	\$13,800	17.5%	
Fwd. and Aft Blade Avg. (114R1502)	166	\$40.00/Blade	\$2,261	\$13,800	16.4%	
<p>These costs do not include replacement parts which are GFE. Costs were derived from completed government delivery orders from July 1967 through March 1971.</p>						

APPENDIX II

DATA EXTRACTION PROCESS

A data extraction procedure was developed and applied to locate, extract and describe CH-47 rotor blade discrepancies investigated for the purposes of this report. This was done by using an alphanumeric coding system, expanded to accommodate identification of discrepancies within the entire structure of the CH-47 rotor blade. This alphanumeric system provides different codings for the CH-47A and CH-47B/C blades.

Each rotor blade returned to Vertol for repair is treated as if it were appearing in the overhaul system for the first time. A thorough inspection of the blade is made by the Quality Assurance Department. The results of this inspection, including follow-up inspection, are recorded on a Boeing-Vertol Inspection Report throughout the repair/overhaul process. Each rotor blade assembly upon receipt at Boeing-Vertol is usually accompanied by a Form DA-2410 originated and completed per Army Equipment Record Procedures, TM 38-750, Reference (8), by the using activity. This form will contain blade historical data. An internally originated SAV-HQ Form 391 (Component Disassembly Evaluation Summary) is also completed for contract purposes. Accuracy of subsequent data analysis is dependent upon the accuracy of these documents, as well as the experience of the reviewer of these forms.

The data extraction record devised for this study is comprised of three sheets containing historical data and primary and secondary discrepancy areas of interest under investigation. The sample forms shown are typical of analysis of CH-47A blades. Figure 29 contains historical and chronological data obtained and/or derived from SAV-HQ Form 391 and Form DA-2410. Figures 30 and 31 identify major and minor discrepancy areas in respect to the blade structure. Boeing-Vertol part numbers are included for identification purposes. Thus, a considerable amount of practical information concerning the effect of design, manufacture and operational experience of each rotor blade in the field is extracted in a readily available form. Figures 33 through 40 demonstrate the alphanumeric coding system for the CH-47A blades. A similar system was developed and employed for the CH-47B/C blades.

A concise description of the construction of the data recording sheets, Figures 29, 30 and 31, is given below to illustrate the depth of the data extraction process. Starting with Sheet 1 of the 3-sheet Data Extraction Record (Figure 29), the headings are largely self-explanatory, but the following is provided to indicate consistency of data interpretation:

1. Item No. - Necessary only for arithmetical continuity and identification of the blade being analyzed.
2. Serial No. - Serial number of blade being analyzed.
A-1 indicates blades located on forward rotor head.
A-2 indicates blades located on aft rotor head.
3. Dash No. - Indicates changes to basic configuration of blade at arrival (I) and when shipped out of Boeing-Vertol repair/overhaul activity (O).
4. TT - Total flight time on blade upon arrival at Boeing-Vertol. Time is obtained from DA-2410 and/or SAV-HQ Form 391 or Boeing Inspection Report. The DA-2410 form from the User Activity is the primary source of this information.
5. TSLR - Time since last repair which is determined from blade historical records and/or noted on DA-2410. Since each blade is considered new when shipped to Customer after repair/overhaul, this can be considered flight time since last repair.
6. Previous Repairs - Number of times blade has been repaired/overhauled at Boeing-Vertol before.
7. Life Limit - Total number of hours blade may be used under normal operating conditions without spar overstress condition. Appears in overhaul and retirement schedule of TM 55-1520-227-20-1 (Reference 6) for CH-47B/C blades. The life limit is fixed at 2400 for the aft CH-47A blades and 3600 for the forward CH-47A blades.
8. Date Received - Julian date blade is received at repair/overhaul facility.
9. Failure Code - Major discrepancy noted on DA-2410. Should the failure cause noted on DA-2410 be inconsistent with results of inspection as noted in Inspection Report, the obvious cause of failure should be noted under remarks.

SER. DASH NO. NO.	TY	TSUR	PRELIM REMARKS	LIFE LIMIT	DATE RECEIVED	DATE REMOVED	FAILURE CODE	MODEL A/C	REMARKS
279 -208 19 33	210	—	0	3600	5112	5033	Unk	A	Blade delivered less socket DA #2410 incomplete
280 -208 33 57 1126	916	1	3600	0287	Unk	Unk	A	A	Complete Teardown - T/E damage * B/S intermittent skin to rib voids Box #2, #3, #4, #5, #7, #8, #9
281 -209 33 - 368	—	0	NA	NA	6133	540	A	A	Scrap - Scrapped in field
282 -210 33 33 316	—	0	3600	6252	6198	200	A	A	Insp. did not reveal reason for removal.
283 -210 33 61 724	408	1	3600	9139	—	804	A	A	Complete teardown for spar insp. Dented nosecap obvious reason for removal.

FIGURE 29. DATA EXTRACTION RECORD - SHT. 1 - CH-47A.

Serial No.	114R1210	114R1077	Trans. Cap	114R1372	TIP COVER	114R1042	SPAR	114R1043	Socket	NAS464PBL97	Bolt	Incidence	114R1450 (2)	Plugs	AN180-40	CLAMP LAND	114R1065	Fwd. TIP Wt.	Anchor	114R1066	Aft TIP Wt.	Anchor	114R1087 (4)	Tracking Wt.	114R1374	Channel	22R1102	Bal. Wt.	114R1214	Root Box	D. C. Doublets	AB-4307	HySol Sealer	EC2216	Sealer	EC1675	Sealer	114R1001						
279 -208																																												
280 -208	2212	21472	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283	2283			
281 -209	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507	21507		
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FIGURE 30. DATA EXTRACTION RECORD - SHT. 2 - CH-47A.

10. Model A/C - A, B or C aircraft, as applicable.
11. Remarks - Major discrepancies, dispositions, or actions taken during repair or overhaul should be noted. Notations such as scrap, complete teardown, partial teardown, TBO Sample, EIR Sample including number, are included. If the blade has been shipped to the Customer, an 'S' is placed in the remarks column. If a Boroscope inspection has been completed, a 'B' is placed in the remarks column.

Sheet 2 of the Data Extraction Record (Figure 30) and Sheet 3 (Figure 31) provided column headings in terms of the various blade major assemblies and/or subassemblies. Physical and/or environmental damage to the blade surfaces and structure as described in the Inspection Report was analyzed in respect to the primary discrepancy which resulted in blade rework and/or scrappage. Codings which were used are described below:

1. A major discrepancy which resulted in scrappage of a part or parts and which was also the cause of blade removal from the aircraft was denoted by placing a '1' in the upper left-hand corner of the appropriate line for that blade. Several examples are shown in Figure 30. Subsequent discrepancies also affecting that part are noted in the same column beneath the first entry.
2. A major discrepancy which was considered the primary reason for blade scrappage, but not the blade removal reason, was denoted by placing a '1' similar to point 1 above. Subsequent discrepancies are noted below this entry.
3. A major discrepancy which required rework or overhaul of a part or parts and which was determined as the blade removal cause was denoted by placing a '2' in the upper left-hand corner of the appropriate line for that blade. Subsequent discrepancies are noted below this entry.

4. Major blade discrepancies were plotted generally in grid form against blade locations as shown by Figures 32 through 40. Different numbers are employed for each different blade location and particular discrepancy. In those cases where the locating grid was inadequate to describe location, an alphabetical prefix was added to the location number. Alpha prefixes used were 'T' for top of blade, 'B' for bottom of blade, 'L' for leading edge, 'I' for spar interior, etc.
5. Discrepancies of secondary importance were described by use of a simple alphanumeric code which is part of the Boeing/Vertol CH-47 Overhaul Data Fact Sheet.

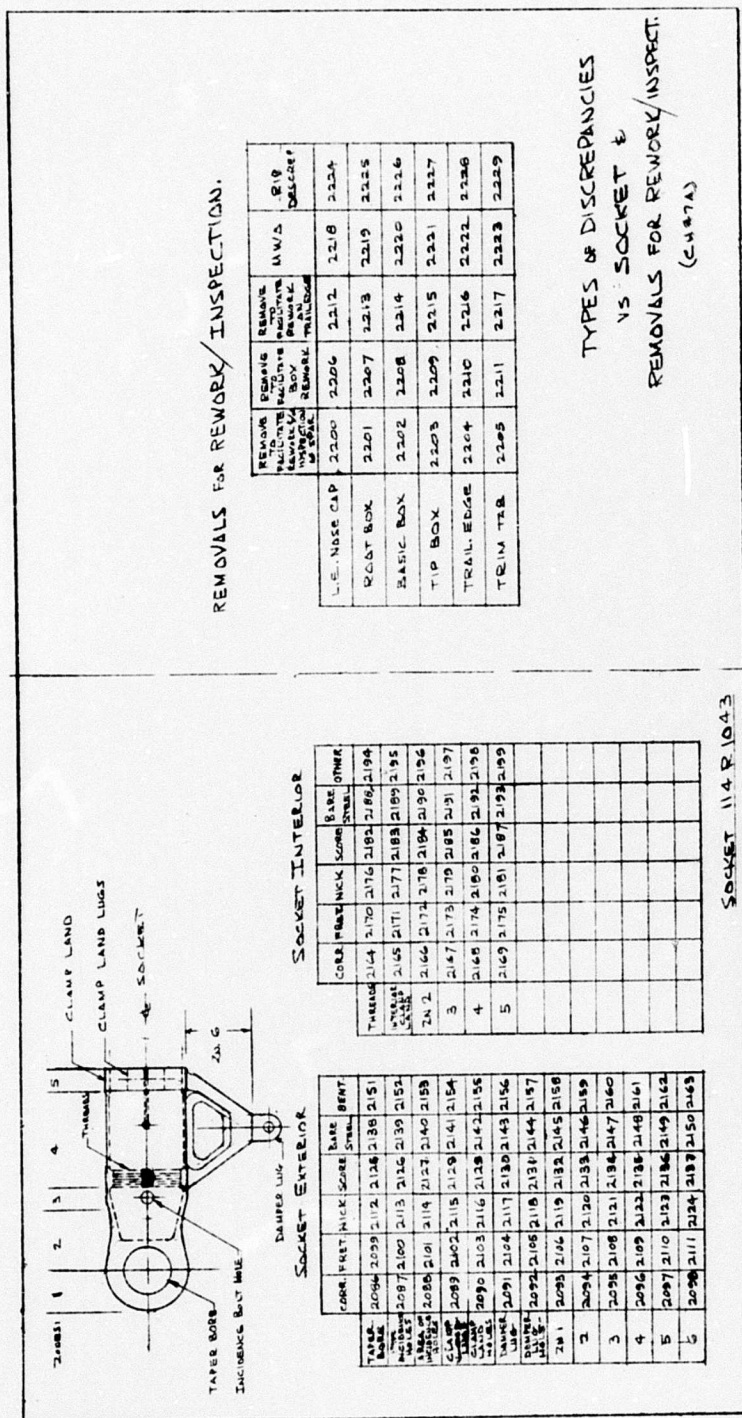


FIGURE 34. ALPHANUMERIC CODE - SHT. 3 - CH-47A.



FIGURE 35. ALPHANUMERIC CODE - SHT. 4 - CH-47A.

[illegible]

FIGURE 37. ALPHANUMERIC CODE - SHT. 6 - CH-47A.

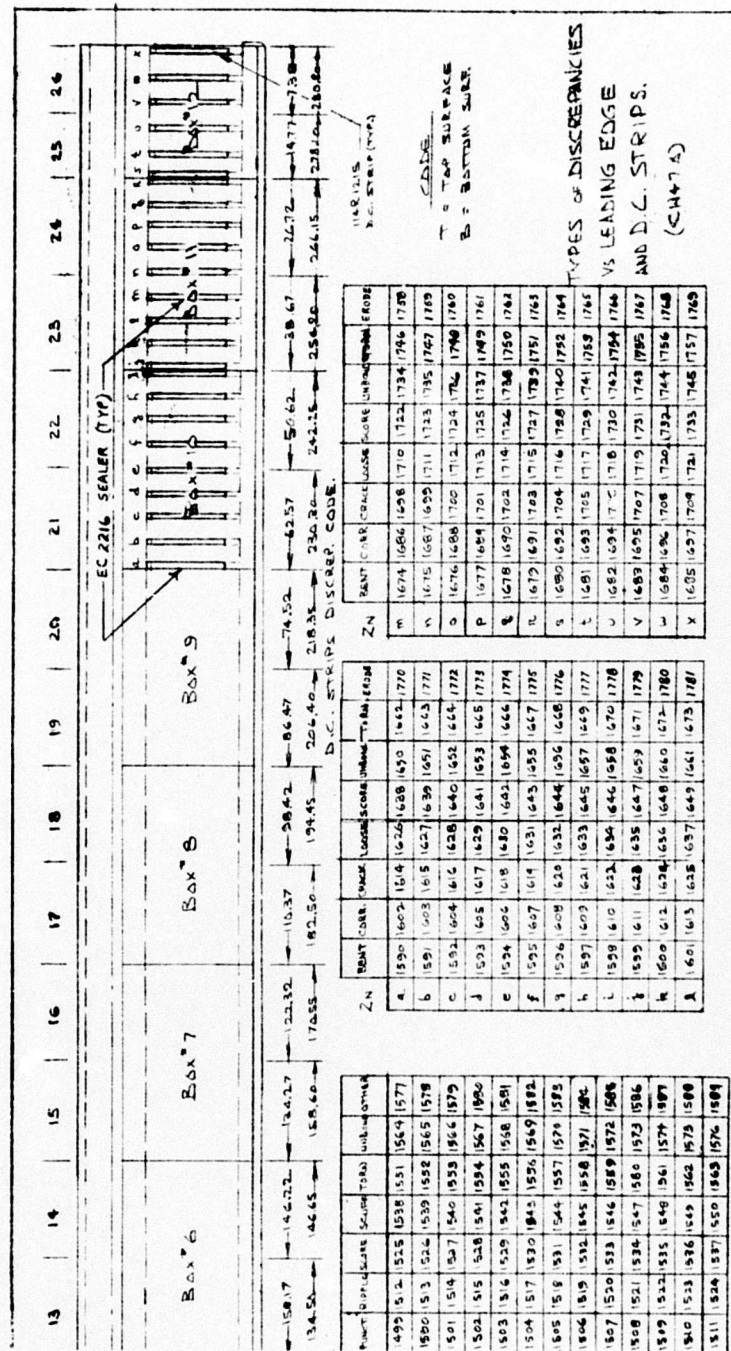


FIGURE 39. ALPHANUMERIC CODE - SHT. 8 - CH-47A.

